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Shmarov replaced as defense minister

See Page 3

Security measures tightened after attempt on Lazarenko's life

By Chrystyna Lapychak

(OMRI)—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on July 17 convened an emergency session of the National Security Council to discuss the implications of the assassination attempt on Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, Ukrainian agencies reported.

Some 500 commandos and 3,000 militia have been dispatched to Kyiv to assist in the hunt for the suspects and monitor train and bus stations as well as roads.

The council agreed to further measures to tighten security around the country's top leaders and step up its fight against corrupt regional officials and coal mine managers in Donetsk, whom Lazarenko believes were behind the attempt on his life.

Lazarenko has exposed widespread abuses of government funds by coal pit managers and Donetsk officials.

Kuchma has said anti-reformist organized criminals and corrupt officials, as well as radical left- and right-wing forces, may well be responsible.

Saying the incident was "an attempt to undermine the constitutional regime," he promised an "adequate and resolute response."

The National Security Council called on the Ukrainian Security Service to begin work on setting up a national anti-terrorism center and proposed stiffer penalties for organized crime and stricter measures against terrorism.

Council chairman Volodymyr Horbulin added that the administration was planning to crack down on extremist political parties, especially those with paramilitary formations, that pose a "threat to national security."

Among them, Horbulin said, would be the right-wing ultranationalist Ukrainian National Self-Defense Organization.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian authorities have offered a 15 billion karbovantsi (C$120,000) reward for information on leading to the arrest of those responsible for the July 16 bomb attack on Lazarenko, AFP reported on July 19.

A limited state of emergency was introduced and paramilitary groups banned following the attempt on Lazarenko's life.

Volodymyr Chernyak, deputy leader of the national-democratic Rukh party, as saying the assassination attempt was the result of a mafia struggle between the Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk mafia clans.

Lazarenko was unhurt but shaken after a bomb explosion damaged his car on the way to Kyiv's Boryspil airport.

The assassination attempt took place as the prime minister's motorcade was overtaking a bus.

Both the trunk of his car and another vehicle in his entourage were damaged.

Lazarenko was examined at the scene and then transported in another car to the airport, where he boarded his scheduled flight to Donetsk.

Authorities said the blast was triggered by a remote-controlled bomb detonated from a nearby car.

The Ukrainian parliament approved Kuchma's nomination of Pavlo Lazarenko as prime minister on July 10.

Lazarenko, whose cabinet resigned on July 5 after the parliament adopted a new Ukrainian constitution, is required to present a program to lawmakers in September.

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Ukraine at the Olympics

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Bubka leads the way

Veteran pole vaulter Serhiy Bubka carries the Ukrainian flag as Ukraine's team (numbering 247 athletes, coaches and officials) marches in the Opening Ceremonies of the Centennial Olympics in Atlanta, July 19. This is the first time Ukraine is participating in the Summer Olympics as an independent country. In 1992 they were part of the Unified Team. As of July 30, Ukraine had won a total of 12 medals — five gold, two silver and five bronze. Leading the team was gymnast Lilia Podkopayeva with two golds and one silver. Many more medals are expected in the second half as many track events (including Bubka's) are to be completed, as well as the rhytmic gymnastics events, in which Ukraine won five medals at the recent World Championships. For more on the Olympics, see our four-page section in the centre of this issue, which includes Ukrainian News' North American Exclusive Colour Photo Coverage of Ukraine's atheltes.

Відставка київського мера

Микола Петренко

(КБУВ)—В кінці липня з'явився таки указ Президента України про відставку з посади голови Київської міської державної адміністрації Леоніда Косаківського, про якого «УВ» колись уже писали як про можливого претендента на президентський пост у майбутньому.

Ухвалення Конституції дозволило розрубати тугий вузол протиріч довкола влади в столиці, оскільки нею передбачено одночасне існування і державних адміністрацій, підзвітних Президентові та Кабінету міністрів, і місцевих рад — виборних представницьких органів з правами самоврядування на чолі з головою міста, селища чи села, обраного всім населенням. Отож віднині Л. Косаківський лишатиметься головою Київради, а виконавчі владні органи очолюватиме депутат Київради Олександр Омельченко.

На виборах 1994 року до Київради перемогу здобув рухівський бльок «Столиця», але на посаду мера їй не вдалося провести свого лідера, відомого економіста Володимира Черняка. Відтоді між рухівцями та Л. Косаківським точилася непримирена боротьба, причому, Л. Косаківському всіляко підсоблювала прокомуністична комісія з питань діяльности рад Верховної Ради. Тим часом Л. Косаківський нарощував сили та узурповував вихід на пресу та телебачення. Потужна підтримка мас–медія в майбутньому відкривала йому великі політичні перспективи.

На початку літа зрештою Київрада «повстала» і заявила про недовіру меру. Л. Косаківський довго перебував у лікарні, спостерігаючи з безпечного місця за діяльністю всіляких громадських комітетів на його підтримку. А розв'язка настала ось у такий компромісний спосіб одразу після його повернення з лікування. Лишився не списаним остаточно, але відлученим від реальної влади і можливостей готувати собі трамплін на майбутнє.

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До появи гривні

Віктор Бикодір

(КБУВ)—Україна, ймовірно, звернеться до Міжнародного Валютного Фонду за грошовою допомогою для створення фонду стабілізації своєї нової національної грошової одиниці — гривні. Це висновок голови правління національного банку України Віктора Ющенка, котрий вельми задоволений рішенням Ради директорів МВФ щодо ухвалення механізму надання такої допомоги Україні в 1997 році.

На початку літа Президент Л. Кучма висловив прогнозу щодо термінів запровадження гривні — до кінця нинішнього року. Як відомо, попередні припущення Президента не збулися, але щоразу викликали нервозність на фінансовому ринку і позначалися на обмінному курсі іноземних валют до українського карбованця. Ниці великого інтересу в фінансових колах це не викликало, як і не знайшло відгуку серед споживачів — певне, люди вже звикли до зигзагів в економічній політиці і навчилися покладатися на себе, не дуже довіряючи урядовим рішенням.

А передумови для запровадження гривні склалися позитивні: вгамовано інфляцію (щоправда, ціною згортання виробництва) та застабілізовано ціни (за умов готівкового дефіциту грошей та кризи взаємних платежів). Тому обіцяний урядом та Президентом неконфіскаційний характер грошової реформи стає реальним. Перед владою стоїть завдання — як зробити, щоб запровадження нової грошової одиниці стимулювало виробництво і як розв'язати проблему відшкодування населенню грошових вкладів в установах держбанку, знецінених у попередні роки.

Розгляд справи народного депутата Ольги Колінько

(Радіо Люкс)—Від 25 липня триває судове засідання Верховного Суду України з розгляду справи про вибори народного депутата Ольги Колінько.

Як повідомили агентство УНІАН у Рух–пресі, заступник Генерального прокурора України Ольга Колінько та окружна комісія Левандівського виборчого округу #262 м. Львіва, по якому О. Колінько балотувалась у народні депутати на виборах 7 квітня, оскаржують рішення Центравиборчкому про визнання виборів у цьому окрузі недійсними.

Вони вважають це рішення «необгрунтованим і тенденційним».

За повідомленням Рух–преси, Ольга Колінько отримала на виборах 69,7% голосів. У результаті перевірки Центрвиборчком визнав вибори по цьому округу недійсними, оскільки виявив ряд суттєвих порушень виборчого законодавства з боку окружної комісії, зокрема, відсутність звірених і затверджених списків виборців, масове голосування одних осіб за інших, тощо.

На захист депутатських повноважень О. Колінько виступили заступники голови НРУ Олександр Лавринович та Олена Бондаренко, члени центрального проводу НРУ Роман Зварич, адвокат Віктор Ніказаков.

Кучма зустрівся з юристами С.Ш.А.

(Радіо Люкс)—Президент України Леонід Кучма зустрівся з членами американської юридичної асоціяції і з представниками Центральноевропейської правничої ініціятиви.

Леонід Кучма в ході зустрічі акцентував увагу на важливості затвердження прем'єр–міністра Павла Лазаренка у Верховній Раді.

«Приємно, сказав він, що ця подія відбулась саме сьогодні в день другої річниці мого президентства», — зазначив він.

Водночас, глава держави наголосив, що занепокоєний складною ситуацією у Донбаському регіоні де відбувався страйк шахтарів.

Американські правники висловили задоволення започаткованими в Україні реформами в судовій та юридичній галузі.

Представники американської юридичної асоціяції поінформували Президента про рішення цієї організації нагородити Леоніда Кучму відзнакою «За демократичні перетворення в Україні».

І з цієї нагоди запросили главу *української держави до США* на урочистості. В свою чергу, Леонід Кучма зазначив, що складна економічна ситуація в державі, ймовірно, не дозволить йому здійснити цю поїздку.

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(КБУВ)—Відомого львівського інакодумця кінця 80–х років, учасника перших демократичних мітингів і депутата Верховної Ради попереднього скликання (1990–1994 рр.) Івана Макара засуджено на два роки ув'язнення. Щоправда — умовно.

Причина — постійні наклепи на Президента в редагованій ним газеті «Опозиція», яку в судовому порядку закрито, а все редакційне майно — реквізовано. Умовний характер покарання багатьма вважається демократичним проявом, оскільки тон публікацій І. Макара був безцеремонним і провокативним.

Не виключено, що сам же Л. Кучма через підпорядковану йому амністійну комісію пом'якшить покарання.

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Перспективи україно–чеської військової співпраці

(Радіо Люкс)—25 липня в Міністерстві закордонних справ України відбулося підписання протоколу про обмін ратифікаційними грамотами за договором про дружні відносини й співробітництво між Україною і Республікою Чехія. З української сторони протокол підписав заступник міністра закордонних справ України Володимир Хандогій, з чеської — посол Республіки Чехія в Україні Павел Маша. Згаданий договір було підписано в квітні минулого року під час візиту Леоніда Кучми до Чехії. Після церемонії підписання протоколу Володимир Хандогій констатував, що співробітництво між Україною та Чехією «розвивається по висхідній». Він повідомив, що в другій половині листопада відбудеться візита до України президента Чехії Вацлава Гавела, під час якої буде підписано ряд двосторонніх угод.

Міліціонер застрілив затриманого

(Радіо Люкс)—21 липня о 19 годині на вулиці княгині Ольги 65 у Львові міліціонерами п'ятої роти патрульно–постової служби було затримано невідомого, який ніс у руках три шкіряні куртки, що були в ужитку. Затриманого було доставлено в громадський пункт охорони порядку на вулиці Володимира Великого 17. Під час транспортування підозрюваного у райвідділ затриманий зробив спробу втікти. Коли ж дільничий міліціонер наздогнав втікача, той вчинив фізичний опір, під час сутички пістолет правоохоронця вистрілив. Затриманий отримав кульове поранення у ліву сторону шиї. Від цього поранення хлопець помер під час операції у восьмій лікарні. Ведеться слідство.

Kuzmuk replaces Shmarov

(JF Monitor/OMRI/Update)—Ukrainian president Leonid Kuchma on July 11 appointed Lt. General Oleksander Kuzmuk as defense minister, replacing the civilian Valeriy Shmarov, who had been ousted July 8 after his performance was found unsatisfactory.

Many military personnel did not have confidence in Shmarov, and the poor condition of Ukraine's armed forces contributed to his unpopularity.

There is speculation that Kuchma accepted his resignation to appease right-wingers, who disapproved of Shmarov's support for Ukraine's non-nuclear status.

In exchange, the right might support Pavlo Lazarenko for prime minister. Left-wing politicians were also unhappy with Shmarov because of his moves toward NATO.

The choice of Kuzmuk signifies a return to the practice — strongly favored by Ukraine's military — of appointing a military man to the post of defense minister.

Kuzmuk, a tank officer, has until now commanded Ukraine's National Guard and, prior to that, the 32nd army corps stationed in Crimea.

Installing Kuzmuk at a meeting of the Defense Ministry's senior staff, Kuchma instructed the ministry to strengthen cooperation with the country's arms industry, accelerate the formation of Ukraine's Black Sea Fleet, and upgrade the safety of arms and ammunition stockpiles.

Kuchma also appointed Yuri Kravchenko as Minister of Internal Affairs, and reappointed Volodymyr Radchenko as head of Ukraine's Security Service, Viktor Bannykh as commander of the border troops, Ihor Valkiv as commander of the National Guard of Ukraine, Leonid Derkach as chairman of the State Customs Committee, and Hennadiy Udovenko as foreign minister.

In making these appointments, Kuchma stated that he was acting under the new constitution, adopted June 28, using his right to appoint heads of the "power" ministries and the foreign minister independently of parliament.

Kuchma further emphasized that under the new constitution these ministers are subordinated directly to the president.

Kuchma made the appointments as part of the process of forming the new cabinet of ministers headed by his nominee Pavlo Lazarenko, whom the parliament confirmed as prime minister July 10.

As of 26 July the Cabinet of Ministers stood as follows: Prime-Minister, Pavlo Lazarenko; Deputy Prime-Minister, Vasyl Durdynets; Deputy Prime-Minister, Ivan Kuras; Minster of Justice, Serhiy Holovaty; Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, Valeriy Pustovoytenko; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hennadiy Udovenko; Minister of the Interior, Yuriy Kravchenko; Minister of Defense, Oleksander Kuzmuk; Minister of Finance, Valentyn Koronevsky; Minister of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety, Yuriy Kostenko; Minister of the Mining Industry, Serhiy Polyakov; Minister of Power Engineering and Electrification, Yuriy Bochkarov; Minister of Agriculture and Food, Anatoliy Khorishko; Minister of Transportation, Ivan Dankevych; Minister of Fisheries, Mykola Shvedenko; Chairman of the Security Service, Volodymyr Radchenko; Chairman of the State Border Defense Committee, Viktor Bannykh; Chairman of the State Customs Committee, Leonid Derkach

Donetsk governor fired

(OMRI/INFOBANK)—President Leonid Kuchma on July 18 issued a decree dismissing Donetsk governor Volodymyr Shcherban, Ukrainian and international agencies reported.

Coal Minister Serhiy Polyakov has been appointed as Shcherban's replacement.

The dismissal came after a government commission investigating the coal industry urged Kuchma to replace Shcherban for having lost control of the situation in the region.

As well, the oblast head was accused of serious financial infringements by the commission headed by First Deputy Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets which ended its hearings July 16.

Forty five criminal charges have been laid against officials in the coal industry.

Five of the Shcherban's 11 deputies were also fired.

In an interview with InfoBank, Shcherban denied charges of mismanagement.

"Economically, Donetsk oblast is on a par with other oblasts of Ukraine. In some areas it even takes the lead. Miners' discontent was not caused by political reasons. The economic crisis which made miners go on strike was not caused by my bad work".

Shcherban went on to say that after his dismissal he will concentrate on work in Parliament, of which he is deputy, and in the Liberal party.

He categorically rejected all charges of a possible connection between the attempt on the prime minister's life and his trip to Donetsk.

According to Volodymyr Shcherban, "no one threatened the Prime Minister from Donetsk".

New crime-fighter appointed

(INFOBANK)—On July 19 President Leonid Kuchma presented a new head of the Coordinatory Committee on corruption and organized crime —Oleh Lytvak.

Lytvak, presidential assistant on the issues of law, takes over from Vasyl Durdynets, recently appointed the first Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine.

In his speech, Lytvak proposed to update the concept and modernize the structure of the committee and called for expansion of its powers.

At the same time, he warned that the committee must not duplicate the functions of law-maintaining agencies.

President Kuchma supporting Oleh Lytvak's proposals, added that one of the priorities is the establishment of the National Bureau of Investigations. He said the necessary proposals must be submitted to Parliament.

Deputies take oath to constitution

By Chrystyna Lapychak

(OMRI)—Ukrainian legislators on July 12 took an oath of loyalty to the newly adopted Ukrainian Constitution, Ukrainian Radio reported.

The oath pledged the legislators to defend the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine and work on behalf of the welfare and prosperity of its nation.

A ceremony followed in Kyiv's Mariyinsky Palace, where President Leonid Kuchma and Parliamentary Speaker Oleksander Moroz signed a law allowing the new constitution to take effect.

Kuchma called the signing ceremony "historic" because it marked the moment the new constitution "turned the population into a nation and (its) territory into a state."

Three days earlier, leaders of the sizable Communist caucus in parliament appealed to that body's ethics commission to review their claims about voting violations during parliament's adoption of the constitution on June 28.

Communist chief Petro Symonenko said some 35 lawmakers, including 10 from his caucus, were absent during voting on each article, but their votes were included in final tallies.

He said such violations cast doubt on the constitution's legitimacy.

He also said deputies were forced to vote under duress during an all-night session after President Leonid Kuchma decreed a referendum on an unamended draft that would have given him more powers.

Petro Sheyko, head of the ethics commission, said the voting was legitimate because the draft as a whole garnered a solid absolute majority.

Other lawmakers said the Communists' actions reveal how difficult implementation of the new constitution will be — it requires the adoption of 50 new laws.

Kuchma reorganizes government structure

(OMRI)—President Leonid Kuchma issued a decree on July 27 providing for the reorganization of some 20 ministries and departments in an effort to streamline the government, Ukrainian agencies reported.

The Chornobyl ministry and the Civil Defense agency have been merged to create a Ministry for Emergency Situations.

A Ministry of Information has replaced the Ministry of Press and Information and the Ukrinform news agency.

The president also replaced the Ministry of Sport and Youth with a Ministry of Family and Youth Affairs and a State Committee for Physical Culture and Sport. The Ministry for Nationalities, Migration, and Religious Issues has been abolished and a State Committee for Nationalities and Migration created.

Several former agencies have been merged into a single State Committee for State Secrets and Technical Protection of Information.

Finally, a Ministry of Science and Technologies has been set up, and the National Committee for AIDS Prevention has been subordinated to the Health Ministry.

Zvyahilsky pledges loyalty

(INFOBANK)—Former acting prime minister and still member of parliament, Yukhym Zvyahilsky, who currently lives in Israel, has taken an oath to the people of Ukraine in a letter to parliament.

Under the new Constitution, each deputy must take an oath of allegiance and the deputies were sworn in on July 12.

In his letter, Zvyahilsky asked parliament to launch an objective inquiry into his activity while being the acting prime minister, claiming all charges against him are groundless. He also confirmed his intention to continue to serve as member of parliament.

Elected to parliament in 1994, Zvyahilsky left for Israel soon after the presidential elections in July 1994. According to him, he left Ukraine because he needed medical treatment.

After his departure a series of articles appeared in mass media accusing the former acting head of government of corruption and law violations. His alleged implication in Donetsk Damiana-Bank affair was also widely discussed.

Several government commissions have been formed to investigate Zvyahilsky's case.

Ukraine opens facility to dismantle missiles

(JF Monitor)—Ukraine on July 26 opened a facility for dismantling on Ukrainian territory the 130 ex-Soviet SS-19 intercontinental ballistic missiles which are still based in Ukraine.

The SALT-I treaty requires Ukraine to eliminate those missiles.

The elimination process includes dismantling the warheads, removing fuel from the missiles, removing the missiles from their silos, and transporting them to a storage area.

The project is currently expected to take some three years to complete because the facility's capacity is limited at this time.

The station has reportedly been designed by a U.S. firm commissioned by the U.S. Defense Department, which also funds the dismantling operation.

The station is based in Dnipropetrovsk at a division of the Pivdenmash plant, formerly a leading Soviet missile plant headed at the time by the current Ukrainian president Leonid Kuchma.

U.S. ambassador to Ukraine William Miller took part in the ceremonial opening, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

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Дрогобичани — героям Крут

Віктор Бикодір

(КБУВ)—Чернігівська обласна державна адміністрація (одна з небагатьох в Україні, де областю керують переважно комуністи) дала дозвіл на спорудження пам'ятника оборонцям Української держави під Крутами.

Чимала заслуга в цьому Львівської станиці колишніх вояків–дивізійників, які зуміли налагодити контакти з головою Борзнянської районної держадміністрації М. Лозою і заручилися його підтримкою. А сам пам'ятник споруджуватимуть дрогобичани, які вже уклали угоду з будівельниками. Буде впорядковано Могилу–курган з п'ятиметровим хрестом.

Коротко

Києво–Могилянська академія дала перших фахівців

(КБУВ)—Відроджена славетна Києво–Могилянська Академія здійснила перший випуск фахівців. Дипломи бакалаврів отримали 151 випускник факультетів суспільних, гуманітарних та природничих наук.

СНІД України не минає

(КБУВ)—В Україні виявлено 101–го хворого на синдром набутого імунодефіциту за всі роки. Всього ж з 1987 року по липень нинішнього року на обліку в медичних установах перебувало понад 7 тисяч інфікованих, причому, лише цього року виявлено 5344 носіїв вірусу СНІДу. З них 80 – донори.

Епідемія гепатиту в Запорізькій області

(Радіо Люкс)—Через гостру нестачу води у Вільнянському та Новомиколаївському районах Запорізької області спалахнула епідемія дифтерії та вірусного гепатиту. Від початку місяця зафіксовано 32 випадки захворювання на дифтерію, кілька людей померли. рРвень захворюваности на гепатит в області — найвищий в Україні. Як констатувала надзвичайна комісія з епідемічних захворювань при облдержадміністрації, епідемія спалахнула внаслідок того, що власники дачних і присадибних ділянок та керівники сільгосппідприємств безконтрольно користуються водою.

Олександр Мороз пішов у відпустку

(Радіо Люкс)—Голова Верховної Ради України Олександр Мороз з сім'єю відбув у відпустку на Чорноморське узбережжя Криму. Про це стало відомо агенству УНІАН із джерел близьких до керівництва українського парляменту. Відпустка глави парляменту продовжиться орієнтовно 3–4 тижні. 24 серпня Олександр Мороз у Києві візьме участь в урочистих заходах, присвячених 5–й річниці незалежности України.

Чи Ваші діти, чи внуки слідкують за подіями в Україні?

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У Львові відзначили ювілей Петра Могили

Василь Верига

Цього року минає 400 років від дня народження визначного церковного і культурного діяча, митрополита Української Православної Церкви Петра Могили (1596–1996). Для відзначення ювілею великого митрополита й основоположника славної Могилянської Академії, найстаршої високої школи на сході Европи, у Львові в Театрі Опери й Балету ім. Івана Франка, заходом ієрархі УАПЦ відбулася святкова академія.

Точно о год. 7–ій вечером 13 червня, Львівський і Галицький архиєпископ Петро своїм змістовним вступним словом відкрив академію, наголошуючи важливість митрополита Петра Могили в історії Української Православної Церкви та в історії освіти в Україні в першій половині XVII століття.

Після нього з головною доповіддю виступив митрофорний протоієрей о. Ігор Бурмило на тему «Петро Могила — український митрополит національної свідомости». Це була добре опрацьована доповідь, позбавлена упереджень до інших віровизнань зокрема до актуальних тоді, як і тепер взаємовідносин до Української Греко–Католицької Церкви, чи як тоді її називали — Уніятської Церкви. Хочеться вірити, що та доповідь появиться друком і буде доступна широким колам людей зацікавлених в історії Української Церкви.

Третьою точкою програми був концерт за участю заслуженої хорової капелі України «Трембіта» під керівництвом диригента Миколи Кулика. В цій частині, що складалася з хорового співу та рецитацій двох артистів, були представлені поодинокі епізоди з життя митрополита Могили.

Мене впевняли, що цю академію підготовили, чи брали в ній участь, усі українські конфесії, на що великий митрополит собі вповні заслужив. Але після всього в мене створилося враження, що це була імпреза виключно УАПЦ, бо представників, чи співучасників не було ніяк виявлено ані в програмці, ані усно в часі програми. Жалко, бо особа митрополита Могили вповні собі заслужила на те, щоб в такій академії участвували всі українські конфесії, включно з греко–католицькою. Поминаючи організаційний аспект, святкова академія була солідно підготована і бездоганно виконана, хоча дещо задовга.

20 Вересня обиратимуться члени Конституційного Суду України

(Радіо Люкс)—Позачерговий з'їзд суддів України, на якому буде обрано шість членів Конституційного Суду України — представників судової влади, відбудеться 20 вересня.

Рішення про це було прийнято на спільному засіданню Верховного Суду України, Вищого Арбітражного Суду України та Ради Суддів України.

Про це агентству УНІАН повідомили в прес–службі Верховного Суду України. Відповідно до нової Конституції України, Конституційний Суд має бути сформовано не пізніше як 28 вересня 1996 року Президентом, Верховною Радою та судом.

Верховна Рада України ухвалила Закон про Конституційний Суд у першому читанні 12 липня, в останній день роботи 5–ї сесії парляменту.

Розгляд закону в другому читанні плянується на початку вересня.

На позачерговому з'їзді суддів України також буде обрано трьох членів Вищої Ради Юстиції, яка утворюється відповідно до нової Конституції України.

Деталі вбивства Миколи Скорохода

(Радіо Люкс)—Луганськ. Про вбивць генерального директора Алчевського металургійного комбінату Миколу Скорохода було повідомлено журналістів в Управлінні МВС України в Луганській області 17 липня.

За словами начальника обласного управління по боротьбі з організованою злочинністю Володимира Євдокимова, найманих вбивць — мешканців Алчевська й Артемівська (Донецька область) віком 33 і 35 років — було затримано в Артемівську.

Він повідомив, що замовив й оплатив вбивство М. Скорохода лідер алчевської організованої злочинної групи на прізвисько «Сєдой», який контролював операції з металом і нещодавно загинув через необережне поводження зі зброєю.

Мотиви економічні: згідно з існуючою версією, М. Скороход не влаштовував останнього.

Відповідаючи на запитання кореспондента УНІАН, В. Євдокимов зазначив, що слідство не припускає можливості існування іншого замовника вбивства.

Смертна кара в Україні — як буде далі?

(КБУВ)—Представник української асоціяції «Міжнародна амністія» Олександр Букало заявив, що Україна нині посідає третє місце в світі за кількістю застосування смертної кари. Не зважаючи на оголошене минулого року Міністерством юстиції застосування смертної кари, кількість покараних на смерть у 1995 році становить 149 осіб.

Стаття 27 щойно ухваленої Конституції України стверджує: «Ніхто не може бути свавільно позбавлений життя. Обов'язок держави — захищати життя людини». Отже, Основний Закон держави унеможливлює застосування смертної кари. Тепер лишається перебороти громадську думку, що не готова сприйняти цю конституційну норму.

За інформацією О. Букала, з 1987 року в Україні не було зареєстровано жодного «в'язня сумління».

Гроші призначені для розбудови Суспільної Служби

Головним завданням Українського Центрального Допомогового Об'єднання Австрії, яке очолював с.п. д–р. Сергій Наклович, була опіка та допомога багатьом українським біженцям, що опинилися в Австрії. Спонзорами УЦДОА були українські організації Австралії, США й Канади.

Покійний д–р Наклович гідно репрезентував українців Австрії, точно звітував про діяльність УЦДОА та брав участь на всіх Конгресах СКУ. За свою жертвенну працю та велике зрозуміння до долі втікачів одержав признання та відзначення св. Володимира від Президії СКУ на рекомендацію Світової Ради Суспільної Служби СКУ.

Вдова д–р С. Накловича передала залишені та незужиті фонди, якими управляв її покійний чоловік. Фонд нараховував по смерті д–ра Накловича 406,249.80 шіл., і цю суму пані Ядвига Наклович розподілила та передала 60,000.00 шіл., на руки пані Наталії Радловської для української організації Допомога Тиролю Україні, а балянс переслала Світовій Раді Суспільної Служби СКУ, що виносить в канадських долярах суму 45,905.62. Ці гроші будуть призначені для дальшої праці та розбудови Суспільної Служби України, яка нараховує 100 осередків по всій Україні. Щиро дякуємо пані Наклович за її труд та співпрацю у цей важкий для неї час. Маємо надію, що українці в Австрії зможуть уформити нову управу УЦДОА і продовжувати співпрацю з Радою та іншими організаціями.

Екзекутива Світової Ради СКУ

Федерація звинувачує комуністів

(Радіо Люкс)—Прес–служба Федерації профспілок України звинуватила Центральний комітет Компартії України у наклепництві на керівництво Федерації. У своїй заяві прес–служба наголошує, що у зверненні Центрального комітету партії до членів профспілок, вміщеному в газеті «Комуніст», спотворюється позиція та дії Федерації, спрямовані на захист соціяльно–економічних інтересів людини праці та підтримання громадянського миру. Звернення Компартії до профспілок Федерація вважає намаганням комуністів підпорядкувати спілки своєму безпосередньому впливу.

Lazarenko meets with IMF during Washington visit

(OMRI/JF Monitor)—Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko ended a two-day working visit to the United States on July 27, Ukrainian radio reported.

Lazarenko met there with IMF representatives to discuss the organization's stand-by credit program for Ukraine and the release of a $US1.5 billion stabilization loan at the end of the year to support the introduction of Ukraine's national currency, the hryvna.

They discussed another credit program whereby some $3 billion would be released to Ukraine over the next three years.

Lazarenko also met with World Bank President James Wolfenson.

The two men agreed that further economic reforms in Ukraine would be possible only through macroeconomic stabilization and that such stabilization could be achieved only with international financing.

Lazarenko also told a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington that cooperation with the U.S. and with European and Euroatlantic institutions represents "the main direction of Ukraine's foreign policy. This is our conscious choice."

Kyiv at the same time pursues economic cooperation with Russia and stability in Ukrainian-Russian relations "as a guarantee of security and stability in the post-Soviet space and in Europe.

An independent and balanced Ukrainian policy answers the long-term interests of both Ukraine and the West," Lazarenko commented, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The remarks are in line with president Leonid Kuchma's policy, and reflects both Kyiv's Western tilt and its concern that it would be forced to choose sides if Russia-West relations deteriorate. That concern is reflected in Kyiv's reservations toward possible deployment of nuclear weapons in countries to be admitted to NATO, and the Ukrainian proposal to establish instead a denuclearized zone in Central and Eastern Europe.

U.S. deputy secretary of state Strobe Talbott, who met with Lazarenko during this Washington visit, had apparently defused that concern somewhat last week by stating that NATO is not considering such nuclear redeployments under current circumstances.

Miners demand release of union leaders

Strike ends as government promises to pay back wages

(OMRI)—Two coal mines held a day-long strike and nearly 1,000 miners held a rally in Krasnodon to demand the release of two local union leaders arrested for organizing recent strikes in the country's coal mining region, Ukrainian agencies reported on July 23.

Petro Kyt and Mykhailo Skrynsky, local independent miners' union leaders, were arrested on July 18 and charged with disrupting public order by organizing illegal mass strikes and blocking railroads.

The latest round of strikes by coal mines demanding payment of back wages owed them by the Ukrainian government ended July 26 when the miners and Kyiv signed an agreement outlining a payment schedule.

In the meantime, Ukrainian radio reported on July 22 that the government had allocated an additional 1 trillion karbovantsi (C$7.4 million) for payment of wage arrears to employees of the mine-construction industry and for the industry's restructuring.

July 15 the government had allocated 15 trillion karbovantsi ($81 million) to coal mines to cover wages for June. It has also promised that by Sept. 15, it will pay all wages owed since February.

A special government commission assigned to deal with the crisis-stricken coal sector said a 12-day-old strike by miners throughout the country caused losses totaling nearly 4 trillion karbovantsi.

First Deputy Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets, who heads the commission, said total losses from various miners' strikes so far this year has cost the industry 20 trillion karbovantsi.

On July 7 some 10,000 miners in Chervonohrad in Lviv oblast had joined the strike, which began on July 2 in the Donetsk region, blocking roads and railroad tracks.

Up to 140,000 miners at 63 coal pits in eastern Ukraine reportedly had taken part in the picketing.

Meanwhile, 129 maintenance workers at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant held a two-week strike to protest the government's wage arrears.

Bosnian minister visits Ukraine

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine has approved US$50,000 to finance parliamentary elections in Bosnia scheduled for fall, announced Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko during a meeting with Bosnia's Minister of Power, Mining and Industry, Enver Kreso, in Kyiv, July 22.

He said the Ukrainian government had also prepared a number of proposals for cooperation with Bosnia and Hercegovina, including seven agreements: on trade/economic cooperation, on mutual encouragement of investments, on avoiding double taxation, on railroad, air and motorway communication, and on the formation of a bilateral commission on trade/economic cooperation.

Kreso visited Ukraine on the invitation of state-owned UkrBud (Ukraine's construction) corporation. The main issue discussed by the head of Bosnian delegation and UkrBud president Volodymyr Plitin was participation of Ukrainian companies in the rebuilding of Bosnia, primarily, within the framework of projects funded by international financial organizations.

Democrats wary of crackdown

(OMRI)—Democratic lawmakers and activists have warned that the Ukrainian government may use the July 18 attack on Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko as an excuse to crack down on its political foes and grab more control of the economy, Ukrainian agencies reported. Although he believes the attempted assassination was destabilizing, Democratic Party chief Volodymyr Yavorivsky said some of council's emergency measures "could antagonize the whole world." Instead of cracking down on the gray market, he commented, the government should "give the people more economic freedom."

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«Держава і мафія — хто кого?»

В'ясислав Чорновіл

(КБУВ)—Після програної комуністами боротьби проти Конституції України та поразки їхніх «старших братів» на президентських виборах у Росії зменшилася загроза для нашої держави з боку комуно–імперських сил. Не випускаючи їх з поля зору, можемо більше уваги звернути а іншого ворога, що, як шашіль, підточує державний організм зсередини. Він сам голосно нагадав про себе спробою замаху на прем'єр–міністра України. Для серйозних аналітиків «комерційний» підтекст цієї дуже прикрої для репутації нашої держави події очевидний: П. Лазаренка хотіли налякати або й позбутися ті, чиї незаконні махінації і надприбутки зачепила діяльність нового прем'єра. Це могла бути реакція донецького директорату і зв'язаних з ним комерційних структур, які розтринькали солідні кошти, виділені з бюджету для дотування вугільної промисловости. Це могли бути й ті, хто в результаті перерозподілу ліцензій втратив можливість наживатися на поставках в Україну енергоносіїв. Або ті, хто аж до останніх рішень парляменту і уряду збивали немалі капітали на виробництві та продажу спиртного.

Отже, маємо всі ознаки появи в нашій державі того, що на Заході означається поняттям «мафія»: організовані злочинні клани, що мають своїх «хрещених батьків», одержують незаконні надприбутки і ведуть боротьбу за перерозподіл сфер впливу за допомогою замахів і вбивств. Як було вже в Криму і Києві, в Донецьку і Одесі.

І все ж наша мафія має свої окремі «українські» особливості. Швидко збагатілі «нові українці», що почали вести між собою криваві розборки, — не підпільні контрабандисти чи законспіровані нелегали. Вони, як правило, представляють офіційно зареєстровані фірми, платять сякі-такі податки, акуратно звітують перед державними органами. І разом з тим половину своєї діяльности і своїх прибутків заховують в «тінь». По далі від державних податків і державного бюджету. Те, що добра половина нашої економіки є «тіньовою», а вивоження капіталу, переважно незаконного походження, набуло небувалих розмірів, визнають сьогодні найвищі керівники держави.

Задумаймося, чи можливе щось подібне — присвоєння для власного вжитку половини можливих надходжень до бюджету — в будь–якій із країн, що борються з мафією, наприклад, у США чи Італії?

Отож особливістю нашої мафії є її зрощення із корумпованою значною частиною державного апарату, з правоохоронною та судовою владою, перетворення її в державно–кримінальну мафію. Без податкового чи митного інспектора, міліціонера, працівника держадміністрації чи місцевого самоврядування, що бере з виробничника чи торгівця значно нижчий за державний податок, але у власну кишеню (ї кишеню вищого начальства), розгул тіньової економіки в державі був би неможливий. Зрештою, хабар може бути не тільки в грошовому чи натуральному вигляді, а й у формі взаємних послуг («ти мені – я тобі»), але завжди в обхід закону і за рахунок держави. То хіба всі такі урядовці не належать до мафії?

Коли дрібні урядовці беруть потроху, то мають за взірець своїх вищих начальників, що беруть багато та ще й просто із нашого нещасного бюджету. Хіба не дотичні до урядової мафії, скажімо, колишні міністри фінансів і сільського господарства, які — при наших фінансових нещастях — відвалили понад трильйонний пільговий кредит народному депутатові — голові колгоспу нібито на його «взірцеве» господарство, а насправді для «прокручування» через комерційні структури і одержання «навару»? А чи не можна віднести до мафіозі першого заступника голови Верховної Ради О. Ткаченка, який, займаючи високі пости в державі, підробив документи, взяв під державну гарантію для керованої ним асоціяції «Земля і люди» сімдесятимільйонний доляровий кредит, не повернув державі ні копійки і при допомозі прихильників мафії з уряду відстрочив повернення кредиту до початку третього тисячоліття? Ось де ваші зарплати, пенсії, стипендії, шановні українські громадяни!

А куди віднести — до прихильників чи асоційованих членів мафії голову Центральної виборчої комісії Івана Ємця, який, не без розрахунку на власну кар'єру, догоджаючи О. Морозові та О. Ткаченкові, «завалив» депутатство заступника Генерального прокурора Ольги Колінько, яка посміла «розкрутити» голосні справи радника О. Мороза Боженара (кредитним махінаціям якого сприяв його шеф) та тієї ж асоціяції «Земля і люди»?

Якось на зустрічі із виборцями мені надійшло несподіване запитання: «Яка, на Вашу думку, різниця між нашою мафією і західною, італійською, наприклад?» Відповідь очевидна. Їхня ма–фія формується знизу догори — і підкуп поліційного начальника чи, як виняток, міністра — найвище її досягнення. Наша ж мафія розпочинається згори — від високопоставлених злодіїв із «партії влади», які, користуючись своїм високим становищем, за своїми потребами намагаються формувати законодавство, а за своїм образом і подобою — підлеглих їм керівників, гріхи яких при необхідности покривають.

Тому спроби подолати нашу мафію знизу хоч і корисні, але великих успіхів не принесуть, бо система вміє захищатися. Потрібні найрішучіші дії згори — дії Президента, прем'єр–міністра, Генеральної прокуратури, Верховного суду, Служби безпеки. Потрібно — для науки іншим — посадити на лаву підсудних і судити публічно високопоставлених мафіозів, спійманих на гарячому. Потрібна нова рішуча кадрова політика. Потрібне залучення до органів влади висуванців нових політичних сил, зв'язаних дисципліною і відповідальністю.

Якщо найвищі керівники держави не наважаться чи побояться таких рішучих кроків, хай поступляться місцем іншим. Бо на карту поставлена сама доля України: стати їй сучасною европейською державою чи скотитися в сіру безвихідь «третього світу» — із всесильною корумпованою бюрократією, злиденним народом і небезко–рисливою допомогою «старших братів» — не так уже й суттєво російських чи американських…

Обрання прем'єра увінчалося вибухом

Лазаренко не постраждав: міна поцілила в інших

Віталій Шевченко,
Народний Депутат України

(КБУВ)—З настанням в Україні традиційного літнього канікулярного сезону в політиці, що триває з другої половини липня до вересня, головною темою розмов і пліткування був і лишається замах на прем'єр–міністра Павла Лазаренка. Ця безпрецедентна для України подія сталася 16 липня, але інтерес до неї не згасає. Вибух біля Московського мосту в Києві обговорюється жвавіше, ніж відставки високопосадових осіб та нові урядові призначення, що посипалися, як з рогу достатку.

Власне, в нашій газеті у зв'язку з короткою літньою перервою в її випуску Павло Лазаренко вперше називається прем'єром. Його сходження на цей владний Олімп також безпрецедентне. Всупереч прогнозам, що його затвердження на цій посаді у відповідності з нормами нової Конституції буде проблематичним (очікувалося, що парлямент «помститься» тимчасовому главі уряду за спроби зірвати обговорення проєкту Конституції та прискорити проведення референдуму), кандидатуру колишнього керівника Дніпропетровської області підтримали 344 депутати Верховної Ради. Мало не всі, хто того дня був на сесії. Ще жодного разу призначення прем'єра не було таким одностайним, до того ж, депутати взагалі відмовилися обговорювати запропоновану Президентом кандидатуру — з нею вони погодилися зарані…

Секрет підтримки П. Лазаренка криється в двох речах. По–перше, і майбутній прем'єр, і Президент провели кількаразові переговори з абсолютно всіма групами та фракціями Верховної Ради, не оминаючи й комуністів. І що разу пропонувалося: висувайте кандидатури, рекомендуйте своїх людей до складу нового уряду. Ліві виявилися не готовими до такого підходу. Фахівців у них не знайшлося, та й не хотілося комуністам заради двох–трьох можливих владних портфелів брати на себе відповідальність за наслідки подальшої діяльности уряду…

По–друге ж, Лазаренко підтвердив репутацію молодого урядовця, котрий має великий вплив серед політичної еліти і навіть контролює через депутатську групу «Єдність» (її основа — вихідці з Дніпропетровщини) та інші неформальні осередки чималу кількість парляментських голосів. Отож і погодилися всі, що нині — час Лазаренка.

Тим дивнішим і несподіванішим для всіх став замах на його життя відразу після призначення. Сталося це на одному з шляхів, якими того дня прем'єр міг добиратися до летовища, вирушаючи в Донецьк. Отже, не виключено, хтось поінформований керував цією терористичною операцією. Випадково чи не випадково, але радіокерована міна розірвалася перед автом прем'єра, понівечивши авто, але не травмувавши людей. Після деякої затримки П. Лазаренко продовжив свою поїздку, заявивши на летовищі перед посадкою в літак, що не впевнений безпеці польоту, і особи, які його супроводжують, можуть лишатися…

Згодом Павло Лазаренко підтвердив, що замах на його життя він пов'язує з поїздкою в Донецьк: було, мовляв, чимало зацікавлених у відкладенні цього візиту. Бо й справді, в Донбасі новоспечений прем'єр «придушував» затяжний шахтарський страйк. «Придушував» рішуче й жорстоко, «відсікаючи» голови місцевій керівній еліті та керівникам гірничих підприємств. Вустами першого віце–прем'єра Василя Дурдинця (ще одне несподіване для багатьох призначення) було оголошено матеріяли перевірок з фактами кричущих зловживань у вугільнодобувній галузі.

З'ясувалося, що уряд майже повністю профінансував вугільнодобувну галузь, але бюджетні кошти використовувалися не за призначенням, а вугілля по волі всесильних керівників гірничих підприємств відвантажувалося комерційним структурам без гарантій оплати. Вугільнодобувна галузь для багатьох перетворилася на джерело наживи, і роками механізми її функціонування були закритими для стороннього ока. А шахтарів щоразу використовували в ролі «всеукраїнського пугала», як інструмент тиску на уряд.

Так сталося й цього разу. Але нинішній літній страйк шахтарів у зв'язку з затримкою заробітної плати проходив вельми драматично: десятки шахт простоювали, а гірники бльокували автошляхи довкола Донецька, паралізувавши життя всієї області і не рахуючись зі своїми ж земляками, відрізаними від усього світу.

Нині страйк захлинувся, його організаторів (за висловленням уряду — провокаторів), можливо, буде покарано через суд. Павло Лазаренко дотримався свого слова, обіцяючи розрубати «шахтарський вузол». І заявивши, що державну фінансову підтримку отримуватимуть лише ті, хто працює. Йому, безперечно, повірили, оскільки після поїздки прем'єра в Донецьк «полетіли голови» обласної державної адміністрації, керівника впливової на Донбасі Ліберальної партії України Володимира Щербаня та його заступників. Донедавна це видавалося неймовірним.

Останнім часом в українських політичних колах усе частіше поговорювали, що в боротьбі за владу все частіше схрещуються дніпропетровський та донецький клани. Це, до речі, теж цьогорічна новизна — вживання слова «клан» щодо державної влади в засобах масової інформації. Так от, донецький «клан», чи іншими словами — промислово–фінансову регіональну еліту уособлював собою Володимир Щербань, влада й можливости якого на Донеччині здавалися безмежними. Певна річ, рано чи пізно його шлях перетнувся б з Павлом Лазаренком — висуванцем потужних дніпропетровських фінансових кіл.

Конкурента усунено. Чи надовго?

В Україні чимало людей переконані, що замах на прем'єра якось пов'язаний з Щербанем. Інші ж вважають, що все те робилося заради попередження. Ще інші твердять: вибух — інсценізація замаху заради усунення Щербаня чи заради «закручування гайок», за що рвійно взявся керівник уряду. Після цієї події Рада Національної Безпеки навіть висловилася за можливість запровадження в економіці «надзвичайного стану», оголосила про створення антитерористичного центру та про майбутній рішучий наступ на тіньову економіку. Ці «потрясання кулаками» важко сприймати всерйоз, але факт лишається фактом: в особі Павла Лазаренка уряд матиме напрочуд тверду руку. І діятиме без постійних підказок президента, як водилося раніше.

UKRAINIAN NEWS
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Українські Вісті видає дво–тижнево *Едмонтон Лайзергрефикс, Відділ Кенейдієн Криптикс Лтд.* під контрактом із видавцями *Українські Вісті Лтд.* Річна передплата $30.00. Всі права застережені. Не можна репродукувати ніяких матеріялів без писаного дозволу видавця. Опінії висловлені в статтях не все відповідають опінії власника, видавця чи редакційної ради.

Ukraine at the Centennial Olympics

Podkopayeva wins all-round gold

World champion Lilia Podkopayeva of Ukraine gave a triumphant performance on the floor, where her most serious rivals faltered, to win the women's Olympic all-round gold, July 25.

Podkopayeva moved up from third place after the third rotation with a near-flawless 9.887 floor exercise that catapulted her to gold ahead of a trio of Romanians and frontrunner Mo Huilan of China.

The Ukrainian became the first reigning world champion to win the Olympic crown in 24 years since compatriot Ludmilla Turischeva accomplished the feat at the 1972 Munich Games.

Gina Gogean took the silver, 0.180 of a point behind Podkopayeva's winning total of 39.255. Fellow-Romanians Simona Amanar and Lavinia Milosovici, the 1992 Olympic bronze medallist, tied for third on 39.067.

Earlier, Americans Domnique Dawes and five-time Barcelona medallist Shannon Miller stumbled out of contention on their floor exercises. Ironically, Dawes was performing to a medley of Ukrainian music as she made her misstep.

Dawes had led the competition after two rotations.

Podkopayeva admitted that winning — and beating the Americans before a highly partisan crowd — provided a satisfying in-your-face to the lukewarm response the international gymnasts have received.

"When we were competing at the same time as the U.S. national team, it (the noise level) was quite distracting," said Podkopayeva. "Therefore, my first day here was not as good as I expected."

Podkopayeva's teammates Lioubov Sheremeta and Svitlana Zelepoukina finished 21st and 23rd respectively.

Podkopayeva also led all women in the team competitions held July 21 and 23.

She sailed through her routines, never scoring less than a 9.7.

But lack of depth proved to be the deciding factor for the Ukrainian team which ended up in fourth place after the United States, Russia and Romania.

Podkopayeva was born in Donetsk on Aug. 18, 1978.

At the age pf five Liliaa Podkopayeva's grandmother took her to the sports club Dynamo in Donetsk with the hope that exercise would improve her poor health.

Gymnastics gradually started to occupy most of Podkopayeva's time and she regained her health.

As a result of a string of fine performances, Podkopayeva was invited to train with the USSR team in 1991. Nothing came of the invitation what with the break-up of the Soviet Union. However, Podkopayeva was not disappointed. On the contrary, she felt that she would have more opportunities in Ukraine. In 1993 she became a member of the national team of Ukraine and started winning medals in international competitions.

Her fist major success occurred in 1993 when she won the silver medal in the all-around event at the European Cup.

She won two gold medals (all-around and vault) at the 1995 World Championships.

In 1996 Podkopayeva won the Women's European Gymnastics championship in Birmingham, England. Innovative choreography (including a tucked double-front somersault with a half twist) helped her win the gold medal in the overall event. She also won two more gold medals on the apparatus finals.

Poised and calm, Podkopayeva prepared for the Olympics with the help of her coaches Halyna Losynska and Oleh Ostapenko, as well as choreographer Svitlana Dubova. The current world champion feels her performance has room for improvement and that it is important at this time to concentrate on precision and balance.

The floor event is Podkopayeva's favourite. Her best memory is winning the floor exercise at the European Championships in Stockholm, Sweden. "I was very happy," she recalls. "Everyone in the place stood up and was applauding and then they played the anthem of Ukraine... It was very exciting."

Her cherished hobby is collecting toys and stuffed animals, particularly a large Mickey Mouse doll and an elephant she was given in France. She enjoys reading detective novels and books about travel.

Although she sticks to her nutritional training. Podkopayeva admits to skipping dinner once in a while to indulge, especially in ice cream and chocolate.

Unlike most gymnasts in Ukraine, Podkopayeva does not aspire to become a coach. She plans to become a lawyer.

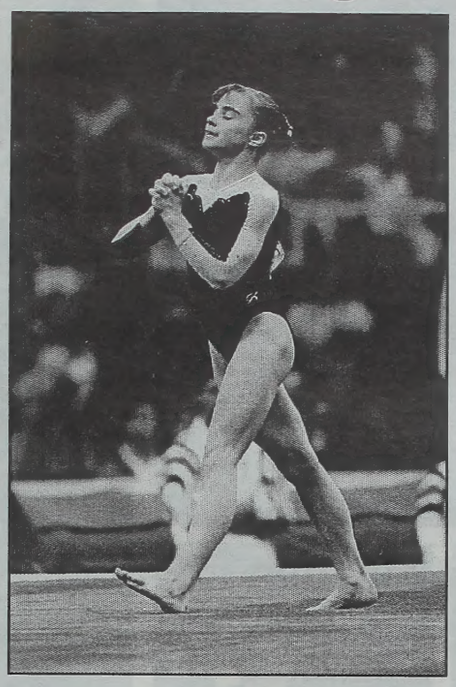

PHOTO — VALERIY SOLOVIOV

Lilia Podkopayeva performing her gold-medal floor routine

Taimazov breaks world record to take gold

Timur Taimazov of Ukraine broke his own jerk world record on July 29 on his way to the gold medal in the second heavyweight (108 kg) Olympic weightlifting class.

Taimazov trailed Nicu Vlad, Romania's 1984 Olympic champion at 90 kg, after the snatch lifts but needed just one jerk to claim gold.

The 1994 world champion hoisted 236 kgs to break his jerk record set two years ago by half a kilo.

Russia's Sergei Syrtsov, the 1992 Games silver medallist two classes lower at 90 kg, again won silver.

Vlad took bronze to join only 11 other lifters who have won three Olympic medals. He also won silver in Seoul in 1988.

On July 24 Denis Hotfrid, a 21-year-old from Luhansk, took the bronze medal in the first heavyweight (99 kg) class for Ukraine's first medal in weightlifting.

Kakhi Kakhiashvili of Greece smashed two world records to take the gold. He had earlier trailed Hotfrid and Kazakhstan's 1988 gold medallist Anatoly Khrapaty after the snatch section. Khrapaty took the silver while Stanislav Rybalchenko, also from Ukraine, took fourth place.

Sharipov wins gold in parallel bars

Reigning world champion Rustam Sharipov has waited a long time to grab the gold in the parallel bars event at the Olympics, and on July 29, his wish finally came through.

Kharkiv's Sharipov scored 9.837 to take the gold medal for Ukraine.

Jair Lynch of the United States took the silver and Vitaly Scherbo of Belarus the bronze.

Among Sharipov's teammeates, the best performance in the individual events came from Ihor Korobchynsky, who placed seventh in vault and Hryhoriy Misiutyn, who was eighth in the individual floor exercise.

Sharipov also led Ukraine's men's gymnasts in the all-round event, placing eighth. Olexander Svitlychny was ninth and Korobchynsky was 16th.

Other members of the team include Oleh Kysak, Volodymyr Shamenko and Yuriy Yermakov.

The team, as a whole, took the bronze in the men's competition behind Russia and China.

Oleynyk wins first gold

Kateryna Vasylenko of Detroit brought a Ukrainian flag down to Atlanta, so that she could hand it to the first gold medal winner for Ukraine at the Olympics.

That proved to be 30-year-old Vyacheslav Oleynyk of Mariupol.

Oleynyk overcame Jacek Fafinski of Poland in the light heavyweight, or 90 kg. class to win the gold for Ukraine, July 23.

As Olynyk ran down the stair to the pedestal, she handed it to him.

Meanwhile, another Ukrainian, Andriy Kalashnikov, took the bronze medal in the Flyweight, or 52 kg class.

The gold was taken by Armen Nazaryan of Armenia, while Brandon Paulson of the United States took the silver.

The 31-year-old Kalashnikov is from Brovary in Kyiv Oblast.

Podkopayeva wins 2 more

Lilia Podkopayeva continued to wrack up the medals with two more in the women's gymnastics individual events, July 29.

She took the gold medal in her favorite routine, the floor exercise, with a score of 9.887, which pushed her ahead of Simona Amanar of Romania. American veteran Dominique Dawes took the bronze.

But Podkopayeva fell just 0.37 points short of American Shannon Miller in the balance beam and had to settle for the silver in that event.

Miller's precise landing of a dazzling full twisting double back somersault dismount pushed her score to 9.862 and win the gold. Romanian Gina Gogean took the bronze.

Podkopayeva's teammate Olha Teslenko came in fifth behind Dina Kochetkova of Russia.

The previous day, competing in the uneven bars, Podkopayeva managed only a fifth-place tie with Amanar and Kochetkova.

Ukraine wins silver in rowing

Ukraine won the silver medal in the women's quadruple sculls event in rowing competition, July 28. Germany won the gold medal and Canada took the bronze. There are six members on Ukraine's rowing team. They are: Inna Frolova, Svitlana Maziy, Dina Mykhtakhutdinova, Olena Reutova, Olena Ronzhina and Tetyana Ustyuzhanina.

UCU sponsored rhythmic gymnast, Ekateryna Serebryanska, in the Canadian Koop Cup competition in1993.

We proudly cheer on the athletes of the Ukrainian National Olympic Team in their quest for Olympic glory.

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Ukraine at the Centennial Olympics

Top Row Left: The Men's Gymnasts accepting the Team Bronze; Top Right: Lilia Podkopayeva accepting the Women's All-Round Gold. Second Row, Left to Right: Gold Medal Winner Vyacheslav Oleynyk (Wrestling: Greco Roman), Bronze Medal Winner Oleksandr Bahach (Shot Put), Bronze Medal Winner Andriy Kalashnikov (Wrestling: Greco Roman); Above: Gold Medalist Rustam Sharipov on the Parallel Bars; Right: Bronze Medal Weightlifter Denis Hotfrid.

PHOTOS BY VALERIY SOLOVIOV

Ukraine women upset Australia to advance in basketball

PHOTO — VALERIY SOLOVIOV

Marina Tkachenko leads the Ukrainian attack in match with Cuba

In a battle for second place in Preliminary Group B women's basketball, Ukraine pulled a surprise upset of Australia, 54-48, July 29 at the Georgia Dome.

The two teams had met 10 times previously over the past two years, with Australia winning each encounter. Ukraine and Australia enter the medal round with identical 3-2 records, with Ukraine taking the second seed with the win.

With Australia holding the Olympic Games' leading scorer, Marina Tkachenko, to only 10 points, Ukraine turned to Oksana Dovhalyuk for scoring punch. Dovhalyuk poured in 15 points and Lyudmila Nazarenko added 13 points and dominated inside play with a game-high 15 rebounds.

In the first half, Ukraine jumped to an early 6-1 lead before Australia battled back to tie the score at 10-10 on a free throw by Trisha Fallon A six-minute scoring drought for Australia and a basket by Nazarenko led to a 20-12 Ukraine advantage. Ukraine maintained a six-point advantage through most of the first half.

In the second half, both teams battled from the tip, with the lead changing hands four times in the first 10 minutes. Ukraine took its biggest lead, 44-39, on a basket by Viktorya Burenok with 5:33 remaining. But Michele Timms answered again for Australia with a three-point basket, bringing the Aussies to within two again, 44-42, with 5:15 to play. Tkachenko pushed the lead to four on two free throws. Rachael Sporn tied the score at 46-46 on a jumper in the lane with 3:31 remaining.

With 2:11 to go, Ukraine went down low to Nazarenko, who hit a turnaround jumper in the lane and was fouled. Nazarenko converted the three-point play, and Ukraine took a 49-46 lead. Dovhalyuk then made two free throws to bring the lead to 51-46. With 1:22 remaining, Timms made one of two free throws, cutting the lead to 51-47. With 58.5 seconds remaining, Dovhalyuk drove the lane and scored, giving Ukraine a six-point lead at 53-47.

Ukraine opened the tournament by rolling over Zaire 81-65, July 21.

Tkachenko scored 27 points, Olena Zhirko added 12 and Diana Sadovnikova chipped in 10 as the only other double-figure scorers for Ukraine

Ukraine closed the half with a run of 15-2 in the final 4:08 to blow open a close game. Natalya Silyanova and Zhirko each hit three-point shots to start the run and Tkachenko added five points during the streak. Ukraine led 45-36 at halftime and by as many as 24 (70-46) with 6:05 left in the second half. Zaire managed to cut the lead to 14 (70-56) with a 10-0 run in the next 3:14, but the outcome had been decided.

Two days later, however, it was Ukraine who was at the losing end of a lopsided score, as the United States continued its domination of the team with an easy 98-65 victory at Morehouse College.

Ruthie Bolton scored 21 points for the Americans, who won all seven meetings with Ukraine in a pre-Olympic Tour. Katrina McClain added 17 points for the Americans and Sheryl Swoopes had 11 points and seven assists.

The Americans scored 12 of the first 14 points and led 52-34 at halftime. Ukraine never threatened after the intermission.

Nazarenko led Ukraine with 14 points. Tkachenko, got into early foul trouble, played less than four minutes in the second half and finished with 13 points.

"Today confirmed our guards could not do anything against these players," said Volodymyrr Kovanov, Ukraine's assistant coach. "We couldn't stop them in the first minutes of the game."

July 25 Ukraine was upset 72-67 by South Korea.

Tkachenko tied the game 65-65 with 2:17 left with a 3-pointer. It was Ukraine's last field goal as it missed its final six shots.

South Korea didn't have a field goal either in that span, but made seven of 10 free throws, the last two by Eun-Sook Chun with 7.1 seconds left. They came just after Tkachenko had made two free throws to bring Ukraine within 70-67. She led Ukraine with 21 points and 11 rebounds.

Two days later, however, Ukraine rebounded with an 87-75 victory over Cuba.

Zhirko scored 18 of her 22 points in the first half, then Ukraine pulled away over the final five minutes.

Zhirko scored the last four points of the first half to bring Ukraine into a 43-43 tie. Tkachenko took up the bulk of the scoring in the second half, getting 16 of her 19 as Ukraine never trailed after halftime and led by at least nine points over the final 3 1/2 minutes.

Nazarenko added 19 points and eight rebounds for Ukraine, which held Cuba to 33 percent shooting from the field.

Medvedev accused of lacking patriotism

Top tennis player Andrei Medvedev was accused of lacking patriotism on after refusing to represent Ukraine in the Atlanta Olympics, reported Reuters citing Ukrainian newspapers.

"It seems that even mention of Ukraine provokes an allergic reaction in Andrei," Valeriy Borzov, president of the country's National Olympic Committee, was quoted as saying by Ukrainian papers, July 18. "He even ignored our invitation to play in Atlanta.

"Of course, we understand that Olympics are not ATP tournaments where you can earn money and improve standings."

In a separate development, Ukraine's NOC blocked Medvedev's sister, Natalya, from taking part in the Olympics — a move viewed by the media as revenge.

A few months ago Medvedev said he hoped to be able to play for a country reunited with the former Soviet Union.

"I hope one day the republics will be reunited and then I would be proud to play for this country. I would be ready to die for it," he said.

Medvedev, 21, ranked fourth in the world in 1993, is viewed as a national hero in the country he dislikes.

Earlier this year the International Tennis Federation rejected his request to switch allegiance from Ukraine to play for Russia in Atlanta.

He was born and grew up in Kyiv but is an ethnic Russian.

The Russian-language daily newspaper Kievskiye Vedomosti quoted Natalya Medvedeva as saying that she was "a victim of my brother's non-patriotic" rhetoric.

She vowed to play in Atlanta under the Olympic flag and under the patronage of the IOC.

"I don't think there was any revenge because of her brother," Herman Venyaminov, president of Ukraine's Tennis Federation, said. "Andrei is a nice young guy but he has a tendency to run off at the mouth."

Ukrainian News salutes Ukraine's athletes at the 1996 Centennial Olympics

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Ukrainian News

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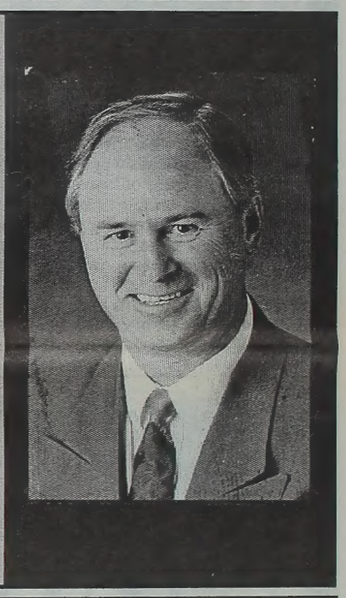

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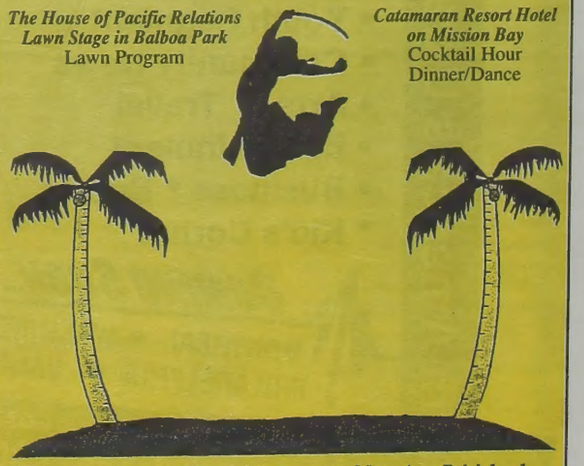

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Prisichenko.
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Training in Carrollton

By Bill Osinski, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (Abridged)*

Their hometown never looked so good, until they saw it through eyes from the other side of the world.

For much of the past two years, the people of Carrollton, Ga., have done just about everything they could to make hundreds of Ukrainian athletes and sports officials feel at home, as Ukraine made Carrollton its pre- Olympic training headquarters.

Alice Richards recalled a night when she entertained a group of Ukrainian athletes at a dinner in her Carrollton home. "They started singing their patriotic songs, ones they couldn't sing in their own country until a few years ago," when Ukraine gained independence from the Soviet Union, she said. The Carrollton-Ukraine relationship has been mutually enthusiastic.

"The Ukrainians have been so gracious," Richards said, and the people of Carroll County, in return, have been nearly uniformly eager to volunteer for the jobs that make the training camp operate smoothly.

The Carroll County residents raised buckets of money, they worked long hours for free, they shared their homes; they even built an Olympic- caliber track on the campus of a local college that doesn't have a track team.

Often, the Ukrainians would gasp, "America! America!" as they witnessed marvels that the local people mostly took for granted, said Deloris Covel, superintendent of cultural arts for the Carrollton City Recreation Department. What impressed the foreign visitors were things like a police force that serves rather than terrorizes the citizenry, high school homecomings, capitalism in action at bank trustee board meetings, the magic of marshmallows, and the abundance of blue jeans.

The admiration goes both ways.

"Our athletes love being in Carrollton," said Laryssa Barabash Temple, the Atlanta-based U.S. representative for the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine. "They feel wanted there." The Carrollton story is being told all over Ukraine, partly through a story filmed recently in Carrollton by a Ukrainian national television crew. A highlight of the story was a song sung in Ukrainian by a Carrollton fifth-grade class.

"This creates a wonderful image of Georgia," Temple said. "It shows the kinds of things this state has been able to do for a country that does not have an ethnic base there."

Although there are many legitimate medal-contending athletes on the Ukrainian team, the nation's economy is still unstable, she said. So the Ukrainian government simply did not have the funds to provide the kind of training that would enable their athletes to compete at their best, she said.

The help came from Carroll County in many forms. Most notably, city, county and state officials worked with Carrollton's West Georgia College to assemble a package of loans and grants of about US$350,000 to construct the track.

In addition, the Carroll '96 Olympic Task Force raised approximately $160,000, mostly from local corporate donations, to pay for equipment and athletes' living expenses during large-scale training camps in 1995 and this year.

In return, the Ukrainians have gone out of their way to be accessible to their hosts, holding athletic exhibitions for as many as 2,000 spectators, speaking at schools, putting on cultural exchanges, showing up at civic club luncheons.

Ukraine's Medal Winners

As of July 30, 1996

Gymnastics

Women's All-Round
Lilia Podkopayeva — Gold

Women's Balance Beam
Lilia Popkopayeva — Silver

Women's Floor Exercise
Lilia Podkopayeva — Gold

Men's Team Combined
Team Ukraine — Bronze

Men's Parallel Bars
Rustam Sharipov — Gold

Rowing

Women's Quadruple Skulls
Team Ukraine — Silver

Track and Field

Men's Hammer Throw
Oleksiy Krykun — Bronze

Men's Shot Put
Oleksandr Bahach — Bronze

Weightlifting

108 KG
Timur Taimazov — Gold

99 KG
Denis Hotfrid — Bronze

Wrestling: Greco-Roman

Flyweight
Andriy Kalashnikov — Bronze

Light Heavyweight
Vyacheslav Oleynyk — Gold

Krykun takes bronze in hammer throw

Oleksa Krykun of Ukraine measured 80.02 with his last effort to edge out compatriot Andriy Skvaruk for the bronze medal in the hammer throw, July 28.

The gold was won by Balazs Kiss of Hungary and German Heinz Weis took the silver. Krykun is from Cherkasy Oblast, Skvaruk from Rivne.

Kiss captured the lead in round 1 and never relinquished it.

For his competitors, though, the event was filled with tension and drama. After the first round, the bronze medal changed hands 4 times. At the end of 3 rounds, Kiss led, followed by Skvaruk and Weis.

In the final rounds, Weis improved to 79.78, just 14 centimeters away from the 3rd position at that time. Then Krykun threw 80.02 to move into the bronze position. Skvaruk, on his final throw, could not respond, and settled for 4th.

The Ukrainian throwers finished 3rd and 4th, handily defeating their Russian counterparts, who finished 6th and 12th, which is a departure from recent history'

Bahach wins bronze in shot put

Aleksandr Bahach of Ukraine took the bronze medal in shot put after a seesaw battle with his rivals that ended only in the last round, July 26.

Randy Barnes clinched victory a mighty effort of 21.62 metres. Until that throw he was only in 6th place at 20.44m as John Godina, also of the United States led at 20.79m. Godina had to settle for silver.

The lead in this competition changed seven times — in the 1st round Paulo Dal Soglio of Italy was the first to exceed 20 metres (20.11), and was followed by Bahach with 20.50.

In round 2 Barnes took over — 20.44, to which Dal Soglio responded with 20.65 and Bahach regained 2nd with 20.50.

There was no change in the 3rd round.

In Round 5 Godina edged ahead with 20.79 and Bahach took over at 2nd with 20.75. Then came Barnes and with no further improvements Dal Soglio, who had led after 4 rounds, ended out of the medals.

Ukraine qualified three throwers into the finals. Besides Bahach, they were Oleksander Klymenko and Roman Virastyuk.

Medal Standings

July 30, 1996
(Includes only those countries with 10 medals or more)

Country	G	S	B	Ttl
United States	25	28	13	66
Russia	19	14	8	41
Germany	10	12	19	41
China	13	15	9	37
Australia	7	9	18	34
France	13	6	13	32
Italy	11	6	9	26
Romania	4	5	6	15
Cuba	3	5	7	15
Canada	**2**	**7**	**6**	**15**
Poland	6	5	3	14
Hungary	4	3	6	13
Korea	3	6	4	13
Netherlands	2	3	8	13
Ukraine	**5**	**2**	**5**	**12**
Belarus	1	4	7	12
Japan	3	4	3	10

Team Standings

Women's Basketball

Standings as of June 30

GROUP A

	W	L
Brazil	5	0
Russia	4	1
Italy	3	2
Japan	2	3
China	1	4
Canada	**0**	**5**

GROUP B

	W	L
United States	5	0
Ukraine	**3**	**2**
Australia	3	2
Cuba	2	3
Korea	2	3
Zaire	0	5

Note: The top four teams in each group after preliminary round-robin competition advance to the quarterfinals.

Women's Volleyball

Standings as of July 30

GROUP A

	W	L
x-China	5	0
x-United States	**4**	**1**
x-Netherlands	3	2
x-Korea	2	3
Japan	1	4
Ukraine	**0**	**5**

GROUP B

	W	L
x-Brazil	5	0
x-Russia	4	1
x-Cuba	3	2
x-Germany	2	3
Canada	**1**	**4**
Peru	0	5

x-clinched berth in medal round

Note: Both the Canadian and the U.S. teams are coached by Diaspora Ukrainians

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GazProm starts being cooperative

Speculation that Iraq deal prompted change in attitude

(INFOBANK/OMRI)—President Leonid Kuchma met with visiting Russian GazProm officials to discuss expanding business links, Ukrainian agencies reported.

The talks focused on how to improve the current system of supplying gas to Ukraine and transporting it across its territory to Eastern Europe.

There was also discussion of the possibilities for mutual investment in the Russian and Ukrainian gas industries.

Among them was the formation of a joint company for the piping of Russian gas through the Ukrainian territory. In a protocol signed after the talks, it was stated that Ukraine will own 51 percent of the stock, with the remaining 49 percent going to Russia.

According to InfoBank's sources in the State Committee on oil and gas , the newly formed company will soon be joined by a third foreign investor company, to which GazProm and UkrGazProm(Ukraine's gas industry) will transfer part of their share. After the final split-up Ukraine will remain the largest shareholder.

During the talks it was agreed that GazProm will not raise prices its Ukrainian customers. In return, Ukraine promised to increase volumes of Russian gas pumped into Central and Western Europe.

Among the other issues discussed during the talks were supplies of gas for Ukrainian underground storage reservoirs and penalty fees for arrears for gas bought by Ukraine in 1993-1994.

Commentators on Ukrainian TV speculated the visit was spurred by Russian gas and oil industry concerns that Ukraine is seeking alternative sources of energy.

They claimed recent talks between the Ukrainian and Iraqi governments about trading Iraqi oil for Ukrainian food supplies has made Russian gas and oil barons nervous about losing a major customer.

Kyiv urges Moscow to resume stalled talks

(JF Monitor)—The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has again asked Moscow to reactivate the interrupted bilateral negotiations.

Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko said on July 23 that Kyiv has forwarded to Moscow specific proposals for a prompt "working meeting" of the foreign ministers, an early official visit to Moscow by Ukraine's new prime minister Pavlo Lazarenko, a meeting of the high-level joint commission on economic cooperation, and an informal meeting of the two presidents August 9 when Leonid Kuchma will attend the inauguration of Boris Yeltsin's second term of office.

Kyiv hopes that these talks would focus on differences over the Black Sea Fleet, the overdue interstate treaty, and trade issues, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Russia's presidential election campaign interrupted the protracted negotiations on these issues.

Even before Yeltsin's second-round victory, and with redoubled insistence afterward, Kyiv called for resuming the talks without delay and renewed its standing invitation to Yeltsin for an official visit.

But Moscow restated its demand for exclusive naval basing rights in Sevastopol as a precondition to signing a bilateral political treaty, which would in turn have to precede a visit by Yeltsin to Ukraine.

Kuchma outlines security approach

(JF Monitor)—President Leonid Kuchma on July 15 told a senior staff meeting of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry that stable Ukrainian-Russian relations are a fundamental Ukrainian national interest and a cornerstone of international security.

Kuchma asked the ministry to focus on finalizing the Ukrainian-Russian framework treaty and the terms of the Russian fleet's use of Ukrainian port facilities as top priorities in the aftermath of Russia's presidential election. History, geography, and other factors dictate the need for normal good-neighborly relations between Ukraine and Russia, Kuchma said.

At the same Ukraine pursues the "strategic goal of integration in European and transatlantic institutions," Kuchma pointed out.

He instructed the Foreign Ministry to redouble efforts to achieve privileged trade relations with the European Union, the status of associate partner of the West European Union (the EU's defense arm), a "special partnership with NATO," and the "deepening of friendly relations with the USA", reported Interfax-Ukraine.

The instructions follow the agenda unveiled by Kuchma a week earlier at the Salzburg summit of Central European countries, at which the Ukrainian president was the only president of an ex-Soviet republic in attendance.

Kyiv seeks to secure its eastern flank both through codified relations with Moscow and by gradually developing security cooperation with the West.

World Bank credits may reach US$1 billion

(INFOBANK)—The total amount of credits extended by the World Bank to Ukraine may reach Us$800,000 - 1 billion, says the Cabinet of Ministers' council on hard currency and credits secretary

Mykola Medolyz told an InfoBank correspondent this amount was discussed in the talks between the World Bank officials and Head of the National Agency for Reconstruction and Development of Ukraine Roman Shpek held in Washington.

In a visit which ended July 15, Shpek discussed the granting of additional credits to Ukraine for the restructuring of coal industry and the solution of social problems in the Donbas coal region. Shpek also discussed the utilization of credits which had been previously extended to Ukraine with the officials from the International Monetary Fund, the US Export-Import Bank, the US Agency for International Development and the US Ministry of Agriculture.

A member of Ukrainian delegation, National Bank President Victor Yushchenko in a talk with IMF first deputy head Stanley Fisher proposed to speed up the granting of stand-by credits on the eve of the forthcoming monetary reform in Ukraine.

Yushchenko said he hopes for IMF support in forming the stabilization fund needed for the introduction of new Ukrainian currency. US Treasury Department has confirmed its readiness to render technical support to Ukraine in forming its treasury system.

The National Bank will also receive US help to connect securities markets to a single electronic network. US Ministry of Agriculture plans to increase the amount of annual credits by $10 million in 1997.

UNA disbands UNSO

The Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA) said it disbanded its paramilitary wing, the Ukrainian National Self-defense Organization (UNSO), and now renounces violence, Ukrainian agencies reported on July 23-24.

Leaders of the right-wing group said the decision was made in line with their bid to regain official political party status.

They said they would no longer oppose the government and they would use only constitutional means to pursue their goals.

The UNA was stripped of its formal party status last summer after it was accused of inciting violence.

More recently, President Leonid Kuchma named the UNA as one of several suspected groups behind the assassination attempt on Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko.

Texts of new constitution available on the Internet

The official Ukrainian- and unofficial English-language texts of Ukraine's new Constitution are available from the Council of Advisors to the Parliament of Ukraine in electronic format, free-of-charge, on a request basis. The Council's translation was commissioned by the Secretariat of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine. Please send all requests to: rada@carrier.kiev.ua

Rents, utilities go up

(OMRI)—The Ukrainian government has increased rents and utilities and consumer energy prices but at the same time raised public sector wages and pensions, Ukrainian and Western agencies reported.

The increases go into effect on Aug. 1 and are part of the government's effort to reduce subsidies and force consumers to pay 80% of the real costs of services. Rents are to be raised by 20-80%, depending on the size of the flat, while water and heating will go up by some 140- 150%.

Energy prices will jump by 130%. At the same time, public sector wages will increase by nearly 11% and pensions by 10%.

Alex Sundakov, the IMF's Kyiv-based representative, said the planned increases will allow Ukraine to meet its budget deficit target this year.

Meanwhile, the Ukrainian Statistics Ministry reported that GDP fell by 8.7% during the first half of the year, compared with a 3.1% decrease over the same period last year

Newsbriefs

Constitution to determine BSF position

(OMRI)—The head of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry information department Yuriy Serheyev said Ukraine's position during negotiations over the Black Sea Fleet will be based on the country's new constitution, Ukrainian radio reported on July 30. He emphasized that Sevastopol cannot be the base of the Russian part of the Black Sea Fleet, adding that only some bays can be allocated for the use of the Russian part of the fleet.

BSF firm on Sevastopol

(OMRI)—Black Sea Fleet commander Viktor Kravchenko said on July 28, Russian Navy Day, that Sevastopol will remain the main base of the Black Sea Fleet, UNIAN reported. The previous day, Kravchenko outlined on St. Petersburg TV the future composition of the Russian part of the Black Sea Fleet, which, he said, would consist of a western group of forces stationed in Crimea and an eastern group based on Russia's Caucasian coast. The fleet will be mobile and capable of carrying out any task in the Black Sea region, he added.

Onlookers wounded at BSF festivities

(INFOBANK)—At the July 28 celebrations of the 300th anniversary of the Russian fleet in Sevastopol, two of the onlookers, a man, aged 24, and a girl, aged 15, were wounded by fragments of a loose missile part. The man was taken to the hospital in a critical condition and the girl escaped with light injuries. The missile was launched from one of the Russian naval ships which took part in the military parade on the occasion of the festivities.

Inflation under control

(INFOBANK)—The Ministry of Statistics states that inflation level in Ukraine in June was 0.1%. This is a lowest monthly level of inflation from the day Ukraine gain its independence. One can observe the decrease in the inflation level in 1996: the inflation level was 9.4% in January, 7.4% in February, 3.0% in March, 2.4% in April, and 0.7% in May.

Ukraine signs arms deal with Pakistan

(JF Monitor)—Ukraine has contracted to sell 300 T-80 tanks to Pakistan at a total cost of $650 million, including the cost of spare parts and training of Pakistani crews. The contract represents a breakthrough in Ukraine's effort to earn badly needed export revenue by capitalizing on military industries inherited from the ex-USSR. The sale also means a foothold on the lucrative South Asian arms market, where Russia supplies Pakistan's rival India.

Polish-Ukrainian military talks

(OMRI)—A Polish military delegation led by Gen. Zenon Bryk arrived in Lviv for talks with the high command of the Carpathian military district on the creation of a joint Ukrainian-Polish peacekeeping battalion. The 600-strong combat unit will join peacekeeping forces in the Middle East, Itar-Tass reported on July 9 Ukrainian and Polish troops trained together in last month's international military exercises "Peace Shield-96" near Lviv.

Russian money may go back

(OMRI)—Russian investors sent about US$2 billion to Ukraine during the Russian election campaign, said a National Bank of Ukraine official, Radio Mayak reported on July 5. Most of the money was invested in bonds. Since Boris Yeltsin has been reelected president of Russia, the bank expects much of that investment to be reinvested in Russia.

Russian movement founded in Crimea

(JF Monitor)—The Crimean "Slavic Union" held a founding congress on July 20 in the peninsula's capital Simferopol in the presence of the Russian Duma's "red-brown" vice-chairman Sergey Baburin who pledged continued "ideological support." The Slavic Union will work to unite Ukraine with Russia and Belarus, and will seek treaty relations between Crimea and Kyiv. Although the leaders and documents paid lip service to the Ukrainian constitution, their stated goals are incompatible with it.

Officers protest unpaid wages

(INFOBANK)—Officers and noncommissioned officers at the Kaidaky airbase in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast issued an ultimatum to the 5th Air Force corps commander July 11, in which they said they are at the end of their rope and are ready to go to the extremes. Their protest is explained by a 4 month wage arrears. Wage arrears in the garrison of 600 officers and NCOs reach Kbv 52.3 billion (apr. C$405,500). During the recent inauguration of the international airport in Dnipropetrovsk, officers' wives tried to block the government motorcade.

Ukraine 80th in living standards

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine is in 80th place according to the annual living standard United Nations report. In a total of 174 countries analyzed, Ukraine belongs to a group with a medium standard of life. Among the FSU countries, Ukraine is outstripped by Latvia (55th), Russia (57th), Belarus (61st), Estonia (68th) and Khazakhstan (72nd).

Rallies banned in Belarus

(OMRI)—Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has announced that all political rallies are categorically banned "while the peasant is out working in the fields" until winter, NTV reported on July 29. "Everyone must work instead of organizing campaigns to put the president out of office," he said. Industrial managers and state officials would be held responsible if political demonstrations were held. Lukashenka called on collective farm workers to unite around him and put those "who hoped to see the harvest fail" to shame.

Чергові 17–і Загальні збори Фундації «Прометей»

Дня, 12 червня 1996 року по полудні в приміщеннях Українського Культурного Центру на вул. Кристі 83 в Торонті, відбулися сімнадцяті Загальні Збори Фундації «Прометей» ім. Степана Онищука і Степанії Швед. Збори відкрив голова фундації інж. Мирон Барабаш, привітавши учасників, а зокрема владику Ізидора і митрофорного протоєрея П. Бублика. Заподаний ним проєкт порядку нарад зборів, правильно піддержаний принято, без змін.

Зборами проводила президія в складі: інж. М. Барабаш, голова; д–р П. Глібович, заступник; Ольга Заверуха, секретар. Прочитаний В. Дідюком протокол з минулорічних Загальних зборів принято без змін. Фінансово–господарський звіт подала офіційний книговод Марійка Шепард. Д–р П. Глібович, голова Розподільчої Комісії представив її звіт, в якому, ствердив, що Фундація, яка досягає тепер півмільйона капіталу має змогу, з відсоткових приходів, фінансово піддержувати різні роди праці української громади, яких в цьому році розділено на 22.350 дол. а від часу свого заснування та сума становить приблизно 275.000 дол.

За цілість діяльности Фундації, звітував її голова інж. М. Барабаш. На протязі пройдених років управа, за опінією і порадами Фундаторів св. п. Степана Онищука і Стефанії Швед, старалася підбудовувати фонд Фундації, ощадною господаркою, добровільною працею управи. Як, що в початкових роках існування, допомога для українських потреб була зосереджена головно в Канаді, то від часу коли Україна стала самостійною державою, через наші українські організації спрямована туди. Видавничі проєкти, висилка книжок для університетів гімназій, Народних домів, церков і т.п. Управа Фундації слідкує за економічним курсом і старається в міру можливости одержати кращі відсотки. Останньо пані Стефанія Швед передала до управи персональні документи сл. п. інж. Степана Онищука та різні його записки, які впорядковані в трьох альбомах. Є думки і побажання, щоби у 20–річчя існування Фундації зібрати їх і видати книжкою.

Закінчуючи свій звіт голова, подякував членам Фундації за гарну і дружню співпрацю. По короткій виміні думок, учасники із задоволенням ствердили гарний розвиток Фундації, завдяки безкорисній і невтомній праці голови, з щирою йому подякою. Голова Контрольної Комісії Леся Шуст відчитала звіт, який стверджував велику й корисну працю Фундації та зробила внесок на уділення абсолюторії уступаючій управі, що одноголосно було принято зборами. Опісля одноголосно обрано нову управу Фундації в такому складі: Стефанія Швед, почесна голова; інж. Мирон Барабаш, голова; Марійка Шкамбара, заст. голови; Ірина Мицак, секретар; Степан Бандера, заст. секретаря; Любомир Косак, правний дорадник; Василь Дідюк, пресовий референт; Владика Ізидор Борецький, Митрофорний прот. о. Петро Бублик, мґр. Володимир Кліш, члени; Володимир Окіпнюк, член; Контрольна комісія: Леся Шуст, голова; Михайло Шепетик, Христина Бідяк, Іван Кузів, Ольга Заверуха, члени; Розподільча комісія: д–р. Петро Глібович, голова; Митр. прот. о. Петро Бублик, Марійка Шкамбара, Леся Шуст, Володимир Окіпнюк, д–р Олег Романишин, інж. Мирон Барабаш, члени.

Одноголосно затверджено Марійку Шепард, як офіційного книговода Фундації. В «різному» порушено, ще деякі справи, що відносяться до праці Фундації, як також звернення до людей «доброї волі», щоби ставали членами–добродіями Фундації, збільшуючи фінансові її можливості в допомозі потребуючим у культурному, видавничому, церковному і б. інших випадках, нам тут в Канаді а зокрема в Україні, пам'ятаючи, що в «Єдності наша сила!»

Прохання на допомогу, просимо надсилати до кінця місяця жовтня 1996 року на адресу: Prometheus Foundation; 2271 Bloor St. West; Toronto, Ont. M6S 1P1.

Земельні ділянки продаватимуть у Львові

(Радіо Люкс)—Львівський міськвиконком вишукує нові можливости поповнення міського бюджету.

Зокрема вирішено, що всі земельні ділянки в місті будуть продаватися з аукціону. Також вирішуватися подальша доля об'єктів, які зараз будуються. Мається на увазі, що будівництво найнеобхідніших об'єктів буде продовжуватися, а решта об'єктів будуть або продані, або законсервовані.

Василь Куйбіда також заявив сьогодні на прес–конференції, що більшість чиновників міськвиконкому буде відправлено на місяць в безоплатну відпустку.

Найбільше журналістів зацікавило повідомлення мера про те, що автомобіль РАФ, який належить мерії буде передано станції швидкої допомоги.

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Евстахій Іван Шимків народився 24 вересня 1936 року в с. Пробіжна Тернопільської області в Україні.

Тут він встиг закінчити перші дві кляси перед тим, як разом з родичами — Василем Шимків і мамою Теофілією Шимків–Білецькою і молодшою сестрою Іриною покинули Україну перед приходом комуністів.

Разом з другими членами родини опинились спочатку в території Словаччини, пізніше в Відні Австрії, а далі в таборі для біженців зі Східної Европи в Німеччині в м. Берхтенгден.

В 1948 році приїзджає разом з родиною до Канади, і посиляються спочатку на фармі у тітки Розалії Боцяк в околиці Waugh, де і почав продовжувати навчання в школі. Пізніше родина переїхала до м. Едмонтому, тут і жив і до кінця своєго життя разом з дружиною Катрусею, синами Робертом і Кенієм і дочкою Лорі.

Рік назад перед самим весіллям його старшого сина Роберта, 1 липня 1995 року, важко захворів. І ця страшна хвороба була причиною його смерті 27 червня 1996 року.

Евстахій навчався в початковій школі і середній школи Sacred Heart і в гімназії St. Joseph's High School в Едмонтоні і Mount Royal College в Калґарі. Одночасно помагав батькові в крамниці "Kalyna groceries", займався спортом граючи в футбольній дружині "Wildcats".

Вперше самостійно починає працювати на півночі Канади геодизистом, а також в федеральній установі DEW LINE.

Після повернення до Едмонтону зустрічається вперше з своєю майбутньою дружиною Катрусею Вилещук і одружуються в 1962 році. За 34 роки сопружого життя Бог їх благословив трьома дітьми: синами Робетом і Кенім та дочкою Лорі.

В Едмонтоні працював в будівельній компанії "Poll Construction" (personnel manager) на протязі 12 років. В 1981 Евстахій організував власну компанію "Diversified Mechanical", в якій працював до послідніх хвилин свого життя.

Його смерть є великою втратою для дружини Катрусі, старшого сина Роберта і його дружини Семін, дочки Лорі і сина Кенія, а також мами Теофілії Шимків–Білецької, сестри Ольги Яремко, молодшої сестри Ірини з чоловіком Любомиром і їх дітей Олега, Маркіяна, Наталки, Лариси, Оксани і Христі, тітки Розалії Боцяк, кузинів в Едмонтоні, в США, Україні і Польщі.

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Eulogy for Stanley John Shymkiw 1936 - 1996

Stanley John Shymkiw was born on September 24, 1936 in Probisna, Ukraine son of William and Theophilla Shymkiw. Stan completed his first two grades of elementary school in the Ukraine. During the Second World War his parents immigrated to Canada with himself and his younger sister. He was eleven years old when he arrived.

After a short while the family settled in Edmonton. Stan attended Sacred heart Elementary and Junior High School. During this time he was an alter boy here at St. Josephat's Cathedral. Later he attended St. Josephs High School and played football for the Wildcats. His first job was as a land surveyor in the North. After that he worked for the Federal Government on the Dew Line. During this time he met the love of his life Katherine Weleschuk in 1958 and they were joyously wed 4 years later. He then joined Poole Construction and worked as a Personnel Manager for 12 years. Stan began building homes and apartments during this time and would go on to complete several. He left Poole to join mechanical specialties as a Manager started *Diversified Mechanical* with partners, Elwood Hoffman and Richard Strasser and this business has been successfully operating to the present. He was well respected and influential in the construction industry.

During Stan and Katherine's 34 years of marriage, they were blessed with two sons and one daughter; Robert, Lori and Kenneth. Stan is survived by his loving mother Theophillia Shymkiw and his two sisters Olga Jaremko and Irene Baczynskyji & Lubo Baczynskyji, as well as his aunt, his daughter-n-law Simin, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins from Edmonton, The United States, Ukraine and Poland.

Stan is also survived by numerous colleagues & friends including one dear friend, Len Storoschuk who especially helped in keeping his spirits up during the last year. Stan loved to spend time with friends and family at their cottage in Skeleton Lake. he was passionate about golfing and vacationed each winter at Sun City, Arizona. Also he was a member of the Edmonton Golf and Country Club.

Stan was extremely generous and devoted family man. His giving and unassuming nature was highly valued by all. We are all supremely blessed to have him forever in our lives. Similarly Stan was highly principled. he was regarded as having an unyielding integrity by his employees and colleagues in the business community.

In addition Stan developed many meaningful and enduring friendships during his lifetime.

Stan be at peace with yourself.

You have met all challenges in your life with courage & determination. If achievement can be measured by how much you loved what you were doing, and the joy it gave you to be doing it for your family — then you have been extremely blessed. Your life is your legacy to them. Your have surely earned your just reward in life for you loved and lived with all your heart.

In conclusion, here is a very fitting tribute to Stan in a poem written by Ellen Brenneman:

Don't thank of him as gone away
His journey's just began;
Life holds so may facets —
This earth is only one.
Just thank of him as resting
From the sorrows and the tears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days and years.
Think how he must be wishing
That we could know, today,
How nothing but our sadness
Can really pass away.
And think of him as living
In the hearts of those he touched...
For nothing is ever lost —
And he was loved so much.

Smoky Lake Church moved to Hull museum

St. Onuphrius Ukrainian Catholic Church has made a remarkable journey. The small, pioneer-built structure has travelled from a rural community near Smoky Lake, Alberta to the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec. There, it has been reconstructed as part of Phase II of the Canada Hall and officially opened to the public June 26.

The second phase of Canada Hall, to open fully in 1998, will trace the development and settlement of Western and Northern Canada between 1885 and the present. It will complete one of the Museum's most popular attractions, featuring 1,000 years of history.

Dr. George F. MacDonald, Executive Director of the CMC says, the museum is tremendously excited to open this new section of Canada Hall. This is an important stage in the continued expansion of this permanent exhibition area which presents the building of our country.

The church was chosen to show the importance of the changing role of religion in community life, and its formative influence in the evolution of Western Canada's society and culture."

St. Onuphrius is a small church: just 12 metres x 7 metres and only 2 metres high. It was originally a tiny chapel built by pioneers in 1907. In 1915, several parishioners built the actual church.

It was one of the first churches built under the direction of Father Philip Ruh, a Catholic priest who was also an architect and builder. Father Ruh went on to design more than 30 other Ukrainian churches.

These churches, with their distinctive pear-shaped domes, became as familiar a part of the Western skyline as grain elevators. More than 500 were built in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, as the Ukrainians were one of the main ethnic groups to settle Canada's West. Between 1891 and 1930, 200,000 immigrants travelled to the Prairie provinces. Their communities stretched in an arc between southeastern Manitoba and northwestern Alberta, a distance of about 1,500 kilometres.

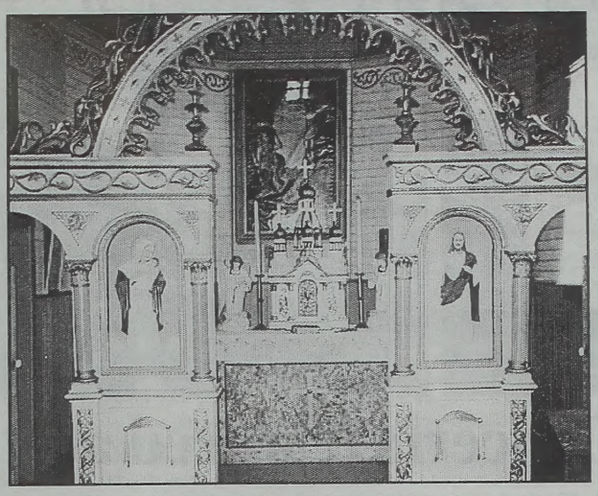


PHOTO — STEVE PRYSTUPA, CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION
The Iconostas of St. Onuphrius Church.

The decision to move St. Onuphrius Church to the Museum was made after extensive research and numerous field trips. Steve Prystupa, the museum's Prairie Historian, was involved in the search for an appropriate church from the beginning.

"I thought St. Onuphrius would be the perfect choice," says Prystupa. "First of all, it was small enough to fit in the Museum. It's also a good example of the blend of Byzantine design, pioneer architecture and Canadian influence."

"The work of prominent church artists of the time is featured in the church's interior. Peter Lipinsky, whose work I've seen in Ukraine, created the painting of St. Onuphrius. Ivan Keywan, who is from Edmonton, did the decorative painting on the church's walls and ceiling."

The entire church was meticulously surveyed before even one board was moved from its place. Three-dimensional computer drawings were created, using measurements taken by lasers. The church was then dismantled. Every board was photographed, marked, catalogued and carefully packed for the trip east.

St. Onuphrius Ukrainian Catholic Church remains a sacred building. A religious ceremony, attended by members of the original parish and members of the local Ukrainian community, was part of the opening event at the Museum.

One of the parishioners in attendance was Ed Pohranychny. The church was built on his grandfather's land. "My grandfather helped put the dome on St. Onuphrius Church," Pohranychny says. "My parents were married there. I was baptized there. So were my brother and sisters. This church was an important part of our lives."

The parish outgrew the little country church in 1964. but its members did not abandon it: they continued to maintain it in the years that followed. They knew, however, that it was only a matter of time before the harsh prairie winters would claim the building.

Mike Kurylo's grandfather was among those who built the church. Mike and his son, Dave, helped take it apart and prepare it for its journey to Hull. "I miss seeing the church," he says. "Every time I visit the cemetery there, I miss it. But it would have collapsed, eventually. And it's nice to think it's in the Museum and that it will stand forever."

Historic St. Michael's church to be re-blessed

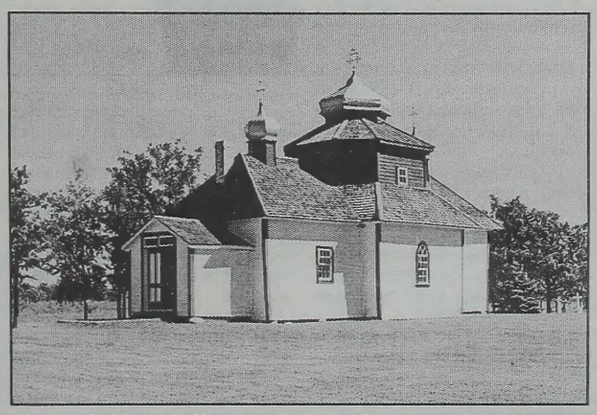
The Annual Pilgrimage Service to be held Aug. 18, at the historic St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church near Gardenton, Man., will have added significance this year.

Restoration work on the church building and Belfry has now been completed. The Church will be reblessed during a Bishop's Visitation at the Pilgrimage Service. His Beatitude Metropolitan Wasyly, Very Rev. O. Krawchenko, and Rev. O. Naherniak will officiate at the service. A dinner and program will follow the service.

This year is also the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Ukrainian settler at Gardenton, Wasyl Zahara and his family. Special recognition will also be given to his event. Descendants of Wasyl Zahara have been invited to attend this event.

Construction of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church began in 1897 with the cutting of logs during the winter and was completed in May, 1899. The Church was consecrated on Oct. 14, 1899.

The Church roof was rebuilt in 1915 at which time the cupolas were added. Except for asphalt shingles on the church, little changes were made in the buildings. The interior of the Church remains very similar to its appearance early in the century. However, the foundation logs and floor had deteriorated since they were resting on stones.



Historic St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church near Gardenton, Man

The Church was recognized as a provincial Historic Site in 1974 and a plaque was placed in 1986. Then in 1988 the Church was recognized as a site of National Historical and Architectural Significance. A Plaque was placed during a ceremony on July 2, 1990.

Restoration work was begun in 1986 with the replacement of cedar shingles on the Belfry. In 1988 the shingles on the Church building were restored. The major work of installing a foundation, replacing the 3 lower courses of logs, and restoring the floor of the church were done in 1991. Finally, the windows were restored and the buildings were painted in 1994-95. The foundation, replacing the 3 lower courses of logs, and restoring the floor of the church were done in 1991. Finally, the windows were restored and the buildings were painted in 1994-95. The foundation logs of the Belfry were restored and a foundation was added in 1995.

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Bohdan R. Bociurkiw

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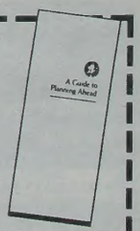


Pictured Top Left: Edmonton's Volya Dancers; Top Right: Winnipeg's Hoosli Chorus; and Above: Winnipeg's Maryna Duet.

Seven Concerts featured at Pysanka '96

(UkrNews)—Close to 6,000 attended the 1996 Pysanka Festival held in Vegreville, July 5-7.

"We had a good year, although not as good as last year. But we were successful," said Ralph Gorrie, Secretary Manager of the Vegreville Cultural Association.

The main difference in this year's festival was that it featured seven concerts — all of them different.

"It was appreciated by everyone," said Gorrie.

And, sure enough, the concerts provided some of the best Ukrainian entertainment available.

Winnipeg's male chorus, the Hoosli Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, under the direction of William Solomon, enthralled the audiences with their rich voices and exuberant performance of traditional Ukrainian songs during the Saturday concerts.

Also superb were the female duet Maryna. Regina-born Maryka Gulka-Chabluk and Winnipeger Iryna Holowczynsky-Wilson combined their talents and energetic style to charm the audience with their beautiful voices.

During Friday's performance, Edmonton's Verkhovyna Choir demonstrated their excellent talents.

Also performing were Edmonton's Charka band who boast a diverse repertoire of traditional and contemporary songs.

A special feature was the performance of the Vegreville A, L. Horton Elementary School's Bilingual Chorus.

Also entertaining the crowds were the Mitelka Folkloric Review and Comedian Victor Pobihushchy of Red Deer.

As for the ever-favourite and brilliant crowd pleasers — Ukrainian dancers — there was plenty to choose from at this year's festival.

They included such premier groups as Shumka, Volya and Dunai from Edmonton and Vegreville's own Sopilka and Vitrak Dancers.

Sunday's first performance had a distinctive international flavour as it featured the East Indian Usha Kala Niketan, the Hungarian Csardas Dancers Society of Edmonton, the Sri Lanka Canada Friendship Association of Edmonton, the Ecuadorean Aymara Nuca Ilacta Dancers, the Portuguese Caravela, the Mazur Polish Canadian dancers and the African Wajjo Drummers and Dancers.

Master of Ceremonies for this year's festival was Cornell Zubritsky, who handled his chores admirably.

This year's inductee into the Canadian Ukrainian Music Hall of Honour was Joe Hrycyk, who has been performing his upbeat and lively Ukrainian music since 1954, with his band, the Starlites.

This year's Honoured Pioneer family were the late William and Anna Pidruchney. William, who came to Canada at the age of six months in 1900 and passed away in 1959, implemented several pioneering "firsts" in agriculture and was a community leader who helped found the Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Vegreville in 1927. His wife Anna (1909-1989) was a member of almost every organization in Vegreville, especially the Ukrainian Youth group, where she did everything from teaching the Ukrainian language to directing plays.

The Festival also featured pioneer demonstrations and the Folk Arts Sales and Display at the "Yarmarok '96", organized by Elsie Kawulych, Mellita Zubritsky and Ann Zahirchuk.

UCPBF seeks to increase its role in the Ukrainian community

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation wants to increase its visibility in and contributions to the Ukrainian community in Canada following its Eastern Conference in Ottawa, July 12-14.

"I think it was a springboard to our convention next year, where we are hoping to set up some action plans in relation to our new position in the Ukrainian Canadian community," says the Federation's president, Raya Shadursky.

Approximately 40 delegates from Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes attended the convention.

Shadursky said the fact that there were members from Halifax, who also represented the Moncton club, strengthened the bonds between the different centres.

"There were some wonderful voices brought together."

Among the recommendations brought forward by the workshops were proposals that the Federation should reposition its strength and leadership within the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, since it is their role to dialogue with federal and provincial governments at both the national and local level.

This is to be done in several ways: by:

• By reinforcing the contribution available from the various strata of its membership;

• By acting as the vehicles of education/information/training for the local Associations to assist them in learning how to access government and in turn educating the different levels of government about who we are and what resources we have available;

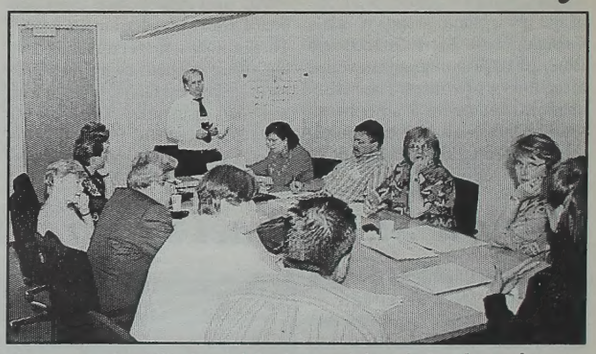
• By encouraging Associations to support members running for local, provincial and/or federal office;

• By working though local ethnocultural associations to lobby government of issues affecting all members of any ethnic professional and business association;

• By utilizing the media more to keep Federation name and activities in front of local and mainstream communities, and to establish and present positions to government on various issues affecting its membership.

Another recommendation urged the Federation to reposition its strength within the UCC to provide local leadership in bringing about cooperation, consensus and encourage membership/involvement in the community through such means as spearheading local/national awards or accreditation for volunteers; increasing the Ukrainian profile with local/national media.

It was also recommended that the Federation should strengthen its contact and ties with its U.S. counterparts.



Ottawa member Mike Kostiuk leads a workshop during the conference

As for relations with Ukraine, it was recommended that the Federation should determine the immediate and long term needs of Ukraine as they relate to business/professional opportunities and then identify what involvement can be provided by:

• Utilizing the Ottawa Association as the 'fact finding' group to work closely with the Ukrainian embassy;

• Establishing regional/local "town hall meetings" it determine do we want to involved and if so what form should this involvement take

•) Bringing all recommendations to the Federation Biennial convention for action planning.

Many of the recommendations relating to the Federation's role with the UCC brought based upon a report delivered to the conference by Mykhailo Wawryshyn, UCPBF representative to the UCC.

The UCPBF will be holding its Western conference in Vancouver in October and has scheduled its convention for Banff July 31-4, 1997.

Conference partisipants listen to a speaker.

UCCLA to unveil Jasper plaque

The Edmonton Office of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association is raising funds for a trilingual bronze plaque near the site of the Jasper internment camp in which approximately 5,500 Ukrainian Canadians were unjustly interned as "enemy aliens between 1914 and 1920.

The cost of the plaque and installation is C$5000. The proposed date for unveiling is Oct. 12.

From Feb. 8 to Aug. 31, 1916, approximately 200 Ukrainian Canadians were used for various road building and clearing projects around Jasper National Park.

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U.S. company to market Ukraine launch vehicles

Business

California-based Rockwell and Ukraine-based Pivdenne have signed a launch services agreement under which Rockwell's Space Systems Division will provide worldwide marketing, sales, and payload integration for commercial space launch services of Pivdenne's Cyclone launch vehicle.

The agreement, formally signed in the U.S. by representatives of Rockwell, the Pivdenne Design Office and Pivdenmash Production Association, is further evidence of the burgeoning new era of international cooperation in the marketing and launching of commercial payloads into space, according to Robert G. Minor, president of Rockwell's Space Systems Division.

"This first formal agreement is a vital step toward possible future cooperation in a variety of bilateral space ventures and other global business opportunities," said Minor.

"In addition, our association with the Pivdenne Design Office and Pivdenmash Production Association reflects Rockwell's strategy to be a strong contender in the international commercial launch market and we feel confident that the Cyclone launcher will provide an excellent vehicle with which to do so in one part of this market."

The Cyclone launch vehicle was developed from what were originally the first and second stages of the SS-9 ICBM; a third stage was added specifically to carry and deliver satellites into Orbit. With a payload capability of nearly 8,000 pounds, it will compete in the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) to Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) commercial satellite market. Cyclone is ideally suited for both the new generation of communications satellite constellations and small, low-cost specialized satellites.

Pivdenne has more than 35 years of experience in designing and manufacturing space hardware. In addition to highly reliable launch vehicles, Pivdenne products include spacecraft, rocket engines, electrical power plants, trolley buses, tractors, cargo trailers and various agricultural products.

Shell may invest US$1 billion in Ukraine

Pecten International, a subsidiary of Shell Oil, is considering investing up to US$1 billion in gas pipeline and oil drilling projects in Ukraine, an adviser to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said on Friday.

"The Ukrainian president and Shell officials held a meeting to discuss oil and gas drilling, plus reconstruction of gas pipelines, which includes modernizing turbines that pump gas," energy sector adviser Volodymyr Ryzhov told a news conference, reported Reuters. "They are ready to inject up to $1 billion."

"We were not talking about completed contracts," Ryzhov said. "We were talking about intentions."

An official in Shell Pecten's Kyiv office confirmed that a "gas transit deal and other deals" were discussed at the meeting with Kuchma, but declined to comment further.

Ukrainian News reported on Feb. 14 that rumours in the oil patch had Pecten ready to invest $1 billion in Ukraine.

On June 26 Pecten was awarded the tender to drill in four blocks of the Black Sea shelf.

Ukraine International Airlines boost profit, passengers

Ukraine International Airlines, the country's second largest carrier, is forecasting profits this year of US$3.35 million, the largest since its inception, reports Reuters citing Unian.

UIA's First Vice-President Vadim Sorokin told Unian news agency that profits would rise from last year's level of $1.7 million and losses of $934,000 in 1994.

Sorokin said the airline would probably carry a total of 195,000 on its routes, operated by three leased Boeing-737 aircraft. It recorded 152,000 passengers last year and 15,000 in 1994.

UIA was created four years ago as a joint venture with the Irish leasing company GPA Group plc and flies to western European destinations. The airline plans to lease another Boeing-737 next spring.

Earlier this month UIA rid itself of a controlling share by the government when 88 per cent of the company's property was transferred to the State Property Fund, the main body dealing with privatization in the former Soviet republic.

UIA management has said the carrier is likely to attract investments rapidly worth about $15 million.

Business Briefs

United Kiev reserves announced

Carpatsky Petroleum Corporation, a subsidiary of Calgary-based United Kiev Resources Inc., says the results of an engineering evaluation regarding its future share of production revenues from the Bytkiv and Rudovsko-Kransozavodskoye projects in Ukraine, done by Scott Pickford Group Ltd., a consulting engineering firm of Croydon, UK has allocated proven and probable reserves of approximately 190 Bcf of gas and 6.2 million barrels of oil to the company's interest, representing a present value of US$47.43 million based on a 10% discount factor. The evaluation was conducted over only the major reservoirs of both fields, representing approximately 75% of the total recoverable reserves in each field.

BP seeking JV

(INFOBANK)—On July 11 executives of British Petroleum met with managers of the UkrGasProm (Ukraine's Gas Industry) and UkrNafta (Ukraine's Oil) joint-stock companies and ChornomorNaftoGas (Black Sea Oil and Gas) state-owned company. The meeting took place at the State Committee on oil, gas and oil-processing industry. BP representatives said they were interested in visiting the above-mentioned companies with the purpose of setting up joint ventures.

Imported technology needed

(INFOBANK)—On July 29 the State committee on the oil/gas industry and oil-processing industry (DerzhNaftoGazProm) requested the Government to permit tax-free imports of equipment, materials and spare parts used in drilling. A special team on purchases of Western equipment is to be formed within the committee to evaluate the neeed to import equipment and materials. Due to a lack of funds, the State committee recommends that oil and gas companies attract foreign investment.

Gas holding corporation approved

(INFOBANK)—The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the creation and charter of UkrGaz (Ukraine's gas) holding corporation.

The corporation is successor to all companies, structures and organizations which had been set up by the former Ukrainian gas corporation UkrGaz involving state-owned property. State Property Fund has two months to determine the proposed corporation's statutory fund.

Simultaneously, the State Committee on oil/gas and oil-processing industry was given the same deadline to evaluate the property of future corporation member-companies. Pending special decision on the privatization, the government will retain no less than 51 percent of the corporation's stock.

The new holding corporation will unite 59 local companies involved in laying gas pipe-lines and pumping gas, as well as four construction companies: TernopilGazBud, ZakarpattyaGazBud, RatneGazBud (Volyn oblast), Korner (Kyiv). Taras Freyuk was appointed UkrGaz president by a special decree signed May 5, 1996 by Leonid Kuchma. Volodymyr Lopatin, first deputy head of the State Committee on oil/gas and oil-processing industry was appointed chairman of the advisory board.

According to the corporation's charter, its main areas of activity include supplies of natural and condensed gas; manufacture of equipment and spare parts used in gas production; purchases of gas for gas utility companies; certification of gas equipment and instruments.

Ukraine to privatize energy generating sector

Ukraine's government plans to privatize part of the country's ageing power generating sector, first by offering shares to sector workers then to foreign investors, a top energy official said July 23.

As reported by Reuters, Andriy Yurchuk, head of the Energy Ministry's securities department, said employees could buy up to 12-15 percent of thermal and hydro stations and distribution systems. No less than 26 percent overall would be transferred to private hands.

But a controlling share of all enterprises, he said, would remain in state hands. And Ukrainian law prohibits the sell-off of the five nuclear power stations, which account for up to 40 percent of electricity generated in winter.

"By the end of the year, share offers at preferential rates on the basis of privatization certificates should be completed at all enterprises, the energy sector included," Yurchuk said.

"Next year we can begin offering tenders with obligations to invest. We would like as large a part as possible subject to tender as the energy sector badly needs finance for modernization."

Last year Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma ordered the creation of four "corporations" on the basis of 44 thermal stations, and two companies on the basis of seven hydroelectric stations.

Last year's electricity output in Ukraine was 192.5 billion kilowatt hours.

Yurchuk said current plans called for sales to the workforce of shares in 13 companies, including two distribution firms Donbasenerho in eastern Ukraine and Zakhidenerho in the west. Further decisions on remaining companies would be taken in the coming months.

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Business Briefs

Russia orders Ukrainian missiles

(INFOBANK)—Over the next five years Russia intends to place orders in Ukraine for 30 Zenit carrier missiles which are to put Russian satellites and other space objects into orbit. The contract will earn Rb 800 billion for the budget, as an InfoBank correspondent was told by the National Space Agency of Ukraine.

Sevastopol bridge underway

(INFOBANK)—The Sevastopol city administration and the joint-stock NaftoGaz (Oil/Gas) company, a subsidiary of Russian joint-stock GazProm (Gas Industry) company have begun construction of an automobile bridge across the Sevastopol Bay which will connect the central and the northern parts of the city. Estimated cost is US$300 million. The bridge to be completed in 3-4 years, is expected to bring $40-60 million in profits annually.

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Dealer breaks off agreement with CDV

(INFOBANK)—Mac House (Kyiv), one of the major Apple Computer dealers in Ukraine, has broken off a dealer agreement with CDV Apple Computer, Apple Computer's distributor in Ukraine.

This happened when the Kyiv company began to sell computers manufactured by another US company — Power Computing — and CDV Apple Computer presented its claims.

In an interview with InfoBank, Mac House marketing manager Tetyana Tyshchenko explained that the Power Computing equipment uses Apple base and Power PC processors, developed jointly by the IBM, Apple, and Motorola communications companies.

"If the CDV leadership had played it wiser and did not put up their claims as an ultimatum, we could be selling both Apple and Power computers in Ukraine", she added.

In the past two years over similar disagreements dealer contracts with CDV Apple Computer have been broken off by such Ukrainian companies as M.A.K. and Informatsiyni Systemy (Information Systems), both from Lviv, InProCom (Dnipropetrovsk), and Evos (Tyraspol, Moldova).

According to the InfoBank sources, one of CDV key executives, sales manager Volodymyr Tsvetkov, has recently resigned from office.

Privatization targets met in first half

(INFOBANK)—The press service of the Ukrainian State Property Fund reports that in the first half of this year 1996 the small scale privatization plan is 100,1% fulfilled (10,915 privatized objects, target figure - 10,908).

For large scale privatization figures are as follows : 103.6% (1738 privatized/started privatization objects, target figure - 1677).

In small scale privatization, the oblast leaders are Donetsk (142.8%), Mykolayiv (139.2%), Zakarpatska (139%), Lviv (131.5%), Cherkasy (114.1%) and Dnipropetrovsk (111.2%) regions. In large-scale privatization Sevastopol (166.1%), Kirovohrad (154.2%), Rivne (145.5%), Sumy (130.8%), Cherkasy (124.4%), Vinnytsia (112.8%), Zaporizhia (112.3%) are leaders.

Reports of SPF also say that targets in agricultural privatization are also over-met. The plan for the first half-year provided for privatization of 119 objects, while the actual figure was 157.

State geology committee fulfills contracts

(INFOBANK)—The First Deputy of Ukrainian State Committee on Geology and Use of Mineral Wealth Olexander Zaritskiy reported on July 23 that enterprises and organizations subordinate to the committee fulfilled their state contracts for the increase of mineral wealth deposits in first half year.

According to Olexander Zaritskiy, during this period the Soukhiv oil field was discovered in Sumy region with a preliminary assessment of 500,000 tons in reserves.

As well one uranium deposit and four productive oil wells with total daily extraction of 110,000 cubic metres of natural gas, 50,500 cubic meters of gas condensate and 75 ton of oil were commissioned.

He also said positive results were obtained from gold prospecting on the Ukrainian crystalline shield : five types of potential gold deposits were established.

Vancouver pharmaceutical firm expands into Ukraine

Vancouver-based Biomin Therapeutic Corporation has recently begun negotiations to expand into Ukraine where it plans to establish Pharmex operations. Initial plans are to take advantage of its Bucharest plant capacity and sell Canadian manufactured generic OTC pharmaceuticals and vitamins under the Pharmex label into the Ukraine market.

Crimea tourism up

(INFOBANK)—Crimean Minister of Health Resorts and Tourism, Vyacheslav Yakutovich, says 20 percent more holiday-makers came to the Crimea in 1996 than last year. Vyacheslav Yakutovich claims the influx of holiday-makers is so big that hotels and sanatoriums are filled 10-20 percent over their capacity.

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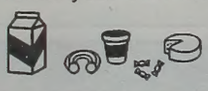

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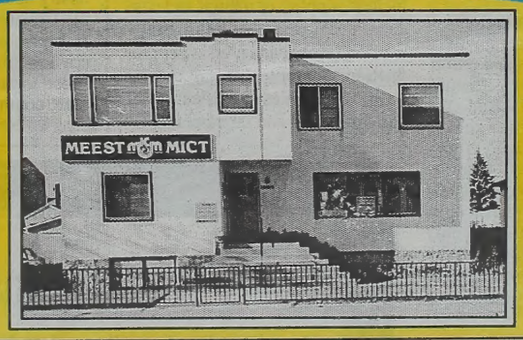

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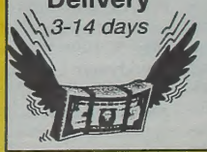

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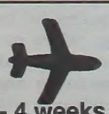

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